

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 1998

JULY 1, 1997.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. REGULA, from the Committee on Appropriations,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

DISSENTING VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 2107]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998. The bill provides regular annual appropriations for the Department of the Interior (except the Bureau of Reclamation) and for other related agencies, including the Forest Service, the Department of Energy, the Indian Health Service, the Smithsonian Institution, and the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities.

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COMPARISON WITH BUDGET RESOLUTION

Section 308(a)(1)(A) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (Public Law 93–344), as amended, requires that the report accompanying a bill providing new budget authority contain a statement detailing how the authority compares with the reports submitted under section 602 of the Act for the most recently agreed to concurrent resolution on the budget for the fiscal year. This information follows:

[In millions of dollars]				
	Sec. 602(b)		This bill—	
	Discretionary	Mandatory	Discretionary	Mandatory
Budget authority	13,000	55	13,000	54
Outlays	13,400	50	13,399	50

The bill provides no new spending authority as described in section 401(c)(2) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (Public Law 93–344), as amended.

SUMMARY OF THE BILL

The Committee has conducted extensive hearings on the programs and projects provided for in the Interior and Related Agen-

cies Appropriations bill for 1998. The hearings are contained in 10 published volumes totaling more than 9,600 pages.

During the course of the hearings, testimony was taken at 20 hearings on 14 days from more than 500 witnesses, not only from agencies which come under the jurisdiction of the Interior Subcommittee, but also from Members of Congress, State and local government officials, and private citizens.

The bill which is recommended for 1998 has been developed after careful consideration of all the facts and details available to the Committee.

BUDGET AUTHORITY RECOMMENDED IN BILL BY TITLE

Activity	Budget estimates, fiscal year 1998	Committee bill, fiscal year 1998	Committee bill com- pared with budget estimates
Title I, Department of the Interior: New Budget (obligational) authority	\$6,566,851,000	\$6,518,192,000	— \$48,659,000
Title II, related agencies: New Budget (obligational) authority	6,533,095,000	6,450,237,000	— 82,858,000
Grand total, New Budget (obligational) authority	13,099,946,000	12,968,429,000	— 131,517,000

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES

In addition to the amounts in the accompanying bill, which are reflected in the table above, permanent legislation authorizes the continuation of certain government activities without consideration by the Congress during the annual appropriations process.

Details of these activities are listed in tables at the end of this report. In fiscal year 1997, these activities are estimated to total \$3,285,882,000. The estimate for fiscal year 1998 is \$2,973,943,000.

The following table reflects the total budget (obligational) authority contained both in this bill and in permanent appropriations for fiscal years 1997 and 1998.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES TOTAL BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEARS 1997–98

Item	Fiscal year 1997	Fiscal year 1998	Change
Interior and related agencies appropriations bill	\$13,514,435,000	\$12,968,429,000	— \$131,517,000
Permanent appropriations, Federal funds	2,253,033,000	2,028,376,000	— 224,657,000
Permanent appropriations, trust funds	1,032,849,000	945,567,000	— 87,282,000
Total budget authority	15,706,397,000	15,109,686,000	— 596,711,000

REVENUE GENERATED BY AGENCIES IN BILL

The following tabulation indicates total new obligational authority to date for fiscal years 1996 and 1997, and the amount recommended in the bill for fiscal year 1998. It compares receipts generated by activities in this bill on an actual basis for fiscal year 1996 and on an estimated basis for fiscal years 1997 and 1998. The programs in this bill are estimated to generate \$9.6 billion in revenues for the Federal Government in fiscal year 1998. Therefore, the expenditures in this bill will contribute to economic stability rather than inflation.

Item	Fiscal year—		
	1996	1997	1998
New obligational authority	\$12,539,892,000	\$13,514,435,000	\$12,968,429,000
Receipts:			
Department of the Interior	6,441,167,000	7,172,255,000	8,551,975,000
Forest Service	713,623,000	763,045,000	775,823,000
Naval petroleum reserves	419,000,000	500,000,000	280,000,000
Total receipts	7,573,790,000	8,435,300,000	9,607,798,000

APPLICATION OF GENERAL REDUCTIONS

The level at which sequestration reductions shall be taken pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, if such reductions are required in fiscal year 1998, is defined by the Committee as follows:

As provided for by section 256(1)(2) of Public Law 99–177, as amended, and for the purpose of a Presidential Order issued pursuant to section 254 of said Act, the term “program, project, and activity” for items under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Subcommittees on the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies of the House of Representatives and the Senate is defined as (1) any item specifically identified in tables or written material set forth in the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, or accompanying committee reports or the conference report and accompanying joint explanatory statement of the managers of the committee of conference; (2) any Government-owned or Government-operated facility; and (3) management units, such as national parks, national forests, fish hatcheries, wildlife refuges, research units, regional, State and other administrative units and the like, for which funds are provided in fiscal year 1998.

The Committee emphasizes that any item for which a specific dollar amount is mentioned in any accompanying report, including all increases over the budget estimate approved by the Committee, shall be subject to a percentage reduction no greater or less than the percentage reduction applied to all domestic discretionary accounts.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Following is a comparison of the Land and Water Conservation Fund by agency. More specific information can be found in each agency's land acquisition account.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

[In thousands of dollars]

	Enacted fiscal year 1997	Estimated fiscal year 1998	Recommended
Assistance to States:			
Matching grants	0	0	0
Administrative expenses	1,500	1,000	1,000
Subtotal, assistance to States	1,500	1,000	1,000

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND—Continued

[In thousands of dollars]

	Enacted fiscal year 1997	Estimated fiscal year 1998	Recommended
Federal programs:			
Bureau of Land Management	10,410	9,900	12,000
Fish and Wildlife Service	44,479	44,560	53,000
National Park Service—South Florida	12,000	76,100	76,000
National Park Service—Other	41,915	69,900	52,000
Forest Service	40,575	41,057	45,000
Subtotal, Federal programs	147,879	241,517	238,000
Total L&WCF	149,379	242,517	239,000

The Committee has included \$239,000,000 to cover the land acquisition needs of the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and the Forest Service.

INDIAN PROGRAMS

Spending for Indian services by the Federal Government in total is included in the following table:

FEDERAL FUNDING OF INDIAN PROGRAMS

[In thousands of dollars]

Budget authority	Fiscal year 1996, actual	Fiscal year 1997, estimate	Fiscal year 1998, budget estimate
Department of Agriculture	124,679	140,035	152,376
Department of Commerce	5,086	4,080	4,076
Department of Defense	8,000	8,000	0
Department of Justice	17,001	18,725	11,489
Department of Education	411,901	521,895	520,353
Department of HHS	2,446,448	2,593,974	2,673,335
Department of HUD	479,752	547,050	555,000
Department of Veterans Affairs	205	205	515
Department of the Interior	1,811,307	1,839,244	1,983,061
Department of Labor	63,867	68,342	68,342
Department of Transportation	192,908	164,286	213,629
Environmental Protection Agency	74,947	106,732	136,555
Smithsonian Institution	32,800	22,000	78,000
Army Corps of Engineers	8,394	16,356	20,294
Other Independent Agencies	25,845	24,845	24,845
Total	5,703,140	6,075,769	6,441,870

RECREATIONAL FEE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

The Committee is closely monitoring the development of the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program, authorized in fiscal year 1996. This is a unique opportunity for the bureaus to develop and test a broad variety of cost recovery methods at 100 units per agency. This program was developed in direct response to the land management agencies' concern over their growing backlog maintenance needs. According to the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service, their combined estimated backlog is \$10 billion dollars.

The Committee does not intend to offset these additional dollars with reductions to appropriations in future years. However, the

Committee wants to emphasize that these funds are to be used primarily to reduce the backlog maintenance requirements. The Committee understands that some projects may be necessary to enhance visitor services and safety and demonstrate to the public that their dollars are being spent wisely. The Committee has included bill language in section 321 prohibiting the use of these fees for any visitor center or permanent structure without advance Committee approval.

Also, the Committee understands that the bulk of the funds will be collected at the largest units. This is particularly true for the National Park Service. The Committee wants to remind the agencies that 80% of the fees collected may be retained in the units where fees are collected and the 20% balance should be allocated to the smaller units in the systems.

The Committee applauds the Forest Service's efforts to try a wide variety of projects. This will assist in determining through real experience what works and what is problematic. The Committee encourages all of the agencies to offer a wide array of projects including those that are out of the traditional recreation mainstream and are not merely increased entrance fees.

In an effort to assure accountability for these funds, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture are directed to prepare a joint report for the Committees on Appropriations by January 31, 1998. This report should contain specific lists of backlog projects in priority order for each of the four agencies. It should report fees collected in fiscal year 1997, estimates for fiscal year 1998, and identify the projects that will be completed in each fiscal year. Also included should be a list of the different methods of collection, lessons learned and suggestions for legislative and management improvements. This report should be updated and submitted annually by January 31st until the demonstration program is completed.

The Committee is concerned that there has been inadequate interagency cooperation and coordination with the selection and implementation of new fees into a coherent, seamless Federal fee system for regions. Visitors should not be faced with a plethora of fees from several bureaus in the same geographic area. The bureaus are instructed to be attentive to visitor complaints this summer about this problem and work to resolve the situation. The public's support for this program is essential if Congress is to consider a permanent recreational fee program after fiscal year 1999.

GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE AND RESULTS ACT

The Committee considers the full and effective implementation of the Government Performance and Results Act, Public Law 103-62, to be a priority for all agencies of government.

Starting with fiscal year 1999, the Results Act requires each agency to "prepare an annual performance plan covering each program activity set forth in the budget of such agency". Specifically, for each program activity the agency is required to "establish performance goals to define the level of performance to be achieved by a program activity" and "performance indicators to be used in assessing the relevant outputs, service levels, and outcomes of each program activity".

The Committee takes this requirement of the Results Act very seriously and plans to examine carefully agency performance goals and measures during the appropriations process. As a result, starting with the fiscal year 1999 appropriations cycle, the Committee will consider agency progress in articulating clear, definitive, and results-oriented (outcome) goals and measures as it reviews requests for appropriations.

The Committee suggests agencies examine their program activities in light of their strategic goals to determine whether any changes or realignments would facilitate a more accurate and informed presentation of budgetary information. Agencies are encouraged to consult with the Committee as they consider such revisions prior to finalizing any requests pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1104. The Committee will consider any requests with a view toward ensuring that fiscal year 1999 and subsequent budget submissions display amounts requested against program activity structures for which annual performance goals and measures have been established.

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVERS

The Committee is aware of the development of a new American Heritage Rivers initiative. The Committee has several concerns about the development and future implementation of this initiative.

First, while the Administration has publicly stated that this effort will not require new funding or staff, the Committee is concerned that staff from the various Federal agencies, including the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, have been used extensively on this project since the beginning of the year. The second concern involves discussions within the agencies about possibly using funds from existing Federal programs, which the Congress has not earmarked, specifically for those river segments that will be formally designated by the President. This action would directly contradict Congressional intent.

Lastly, concerns have been raised to both the legislative committees of jurisdiction and the Appropriations Committee by both private property rights groups and private citizens about the process by which rivers and/or parts of rivers will be designated. The Committee strongly believes designations should only be made in cases where there is broad community support for the designation. Where opposition arises from either private citizens or local, State or Federal elected officials no designation should proceed unless and until the concerns of opponents can be fully addressed.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

Clause 2(1)(4) of rule XI of the House of Representatives states that:

Each report of a committee on a bill or joint resolution of a public character, shall include a statement citing the specific powers granted to the Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution.

The Committee on Appropriations bases its authority to report this legislation from Clause 7 of Section 9 of Article I of the Constitution of the United States of America which states: "No money

shall be drawn from the Treasury but in consequence of Appropriations made by law”

Appropriations contained in this Act are made pursuant to this specific power granted by the Constitution.

REPROGRAMMING GUIDELINES

The Committee has revised the reprogramming guidelines to eliminate some of the exceptions included in fiscal year 1995 which was the last time the guidelines were changed. The Committee believes that some of those revisions gave too broad latitude to certain agencies to make changes without sufficiently involving the Committee. The newly revised guidelines are printed below. The reprogramming threshold is standardized for all agency programs, projects and activities at \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is lower. The only exception is the tribal priority allocations activity in the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The following are revised procedures governing reprogramming actions for programs and activities funded in the Interior Appropriations Act:

1. *Definition.*—“Reprogramming,” as defined in these procedures, includes the reallocation of funds from one budget activity to another. In cases where either Committee report displays an allocation of an appropriation below the activity level, that more detailed level shall be the basis for reprogramming. For construction accounts, a reprogramming constitutes the reallocation of funds from one construction project identified in the justifications to another. A reprogramming shall also consist of any significant departure from the program described in the agency’s budget justifications. This includes proposed reorganizations even without a change in funding.

2. *Guidelines for reprogramming.*—(a) A reprogramming should be made only when an unforeseen situation arises; and then only if postponement of the project or the activity until the next appropriation year would result in actual loss or damage. Mere convenience or desire should not be factors for consideration.

(b) Any project or activity which may be deferred through reprogramming shall not later be accomplished by means of further reprogramming; but, instead, funds should again be sought for the deferred project or activity through the regular appropriations process.

(c) Reprogramming should not be employed to initiate new programs or to change allocations specifically denied, limited or increased by the Congress in the Act or the report. In cases where unforeseen events or conditions are deemed to require such changes, proposals shall be submitted in advance to the Committee, regardless of amounts involved, and be fully explained and justified.

(d) Reprogramming proposals submitted to the Committee for prior approval shall be considered approved after 30 calendar days if the Committee has posed no objection. However, agencies will be expected to extend the approval deadline if specifically requested by either Committee.

3. *Criteria and exception.*—Any proposed reprogramming must be submitted to the Committee in writing prior to implementation if

it exceeds \$500,000 annually or results in an increase or decrease of more than 10 percent annually in affected programs, with the following exception:

With regard to the tribal priority allocations activity of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Operations of Indian Programs account, there is no restriction on reprogrammings among the programs within this activity. However, the Bureau shall report on all reprogrammings made during the first six months of the fiscal year by no later than May 1 of each year, and shall provide a final report of all reprogrammings for the previous fiscal year by no later than November 1 of each year.

4. *Quarterly reports.*—(a) All reprogrammings shall be reported to the Committee quarterly and shall include cumulative totals.

(b) Any significant shifts of funding among object classifications also should be reported to the Committee.

5. *Administrative Overhead Accounts.*—For all appropriations where costs of overhead administrative expenses are funded in part from “assessments” of various budget activities within an appropriation, the assessments shall be shown in justifications under the discussion of administrative expenses.

6. *Contingency Accounts.*—For all appropriations where assessments are made against various budget activities or allocations for contingencies, the Committee expects a full explanation, separate from the justifications. The explanation shall show the amount of the assessment, the activities assessed, and the purpose of the fund. The committee expects reports each year detailing the use of these funds. In no case shall a fund be used to finance projects and activities disapproved or limited by Congress or to finance new permanent positions or to finance programs or activities that could be foreseen and included in the normal budget review process. Contingency funds shall not be used to initiate new programs.

7. *Declarations of taking.*—The Committee directs the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, and the Forest Service to seek Committee approval in advance of filing declarations of taking.

8. *Report language.*—Any limitation, directive, or earmarking contained in either the House or Senate report which is not contradicted by the other report nor specifically denied in the conference report shall be considered as having been approved by both Houses of Congress.

9. *Forest Service.*—The following procedures shall apply to the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture:

(a) The Forest Service shall not change the boundaries of any region, abolish any region, move or close any regional office for research, State and private forestry, or National Forest System administration, without the consent of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, and the House Committee on Agriculture, in compliance with these reprogramming procedures.

(b) The appropriation structure for the Forest Service shall not be altered without advance approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

(c) Provisions of section 702(b) of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2257) and of 7 U.S.C. 147b shall

apply to appropriations available to the Forest Service only to the extent that the proposed transfer is approved by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations in compliance with these reprogramming procedures.

10. *Assessments.*—No assessments shall be levied against any program, budget activity, subactivity, or project funded by the Interior Appropriations Act unless such assessments and the basis therefor are presented to the Committees on Appropriations and are approved by such committees, in compliance with these procedures.

11. *Land acquisitions.*—Lands shall not be acquired for more than the approved appraised value (as addressed in section 301(3) of Public Law 91-646) except for condemnations and declarations of taking, unless such acquisitions are submitted to the Committees on Appropriations for approval in compliance with these procedures.

12. *Land exchanges.*—Land exchanges shall not be consummated until the Committees on Appropriations have had a 30 day period in which to examine the proposed exchange.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for the multiple use management, protection, and development of a full range of natural resources, including minerals, timber, rangeland, fish and wildlife habitat, and wilderness on about 270 million acres of the Nation's public lands and for management of 300 million additional acres of Federally-owned subsurface mineral rights. The Bureau is the second largest supplier of public outdoor recreation in the Western United States, with an estimated 65 million visits totaling 570 million visitor hours of recreation use on the public lands under the Bureau's management.

Under the multiple-use and ecosystem management concept the Bureau administers the grazing of approximately 4.3 million head of livestock on some 164 million acres of public land ranges, and manages over 43,000 wild horses and burros, some 270 million acres of wildlife habitat, and over 150,000 miles of fisheries habitat. Grazing receipts are estimated to be about \$16.1 million in fiscal year 1998, compared to an estimated \$15.0 million in fiscal year 1997 and actual receipts of \$15.4 million in fiscal year 1996. The Bureau also administers about 4 million acres of commercial forest lands through the "Management of lands and resources" and "Oregon and California grant lands" appropriations. Timber receipts (including salvage) are estimated to be \$98.5 million in fiscal year 1998 compared to estimated receipts of \$96.2 million in fiscal year 1997 and actual receipts of \$92.8 million in fiscal year 1996. The Bureau has an active program of soil and watershed management on 175 million acres in the lower 48 States and 92 million acres in Alaska. Practices such as revegetation, protective fencing, and water developments are designed to conserve, enhance, and develop public land, soil, and watershed resources. The Bureau is also responsible for fire protection on the public lands and on all Department of the Interior managed lands in Alaska, and for the suppres-

sion of wildfires on the public lands in Alaska and the western States.

MANAGEMENT OF LANDS AND RESOURCES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$575,664,000
Budget estimate, 1998	587,495,000
Recommended, 1998	581,591,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+5,927,000
Budget estimate, 1998	– 5,904,000

The Committee recommends \$581,591,000 for management of lands and resources, an increase of \$5,927,000 from the fiscal year 1997 level and a decrease of \$5,904,000 from the budget estimate.

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Land Resources			
Soil, water and air management.....	24,101	23,351	-750
Range management.....	54,342	54,342	---
Forestry management.....	5,652	5,652	---
Riparian management.....	16,473	16,473	---
Cultural resources management.....	13,122	12,622	-500
Wild horse and burro management.....	18,740	18,640	-100
Subtotal, Land Resources.....	132,430	131,080	-1,350
Wildlife and Fisheries			
Wildlife management.....	20,460	20,960	+500
Fisheries management.....	7,318	7,818	+500
Subtotal, Wildlife and Fisheries.....	27,778	28,778	+1,000
Threatened and endangered species.....	16,795	16,795	---
Recreation Management			
Wilderness management.....	16,236	15,736	-500
Recreation resources management.....	31,283	30,333	-950
Recreation operations (fees).....	3,070	3,020	-50
Subtotal, Recreation Management.....	50,589	49,089	-1,500
Energy and Minerals			
Oil and gas.....	52,470	52,470	---
Coal management.....	7,017	7,017	---
Other mineral resources.....	8,776	8,776	---
Subtotal, Energy and Minerals.....	68,263	68,263	---
Alaska minerals.....	2,043	2,043	---
Realty and Ownership Management			
Alaska conveyance.....	28,114	28,114	---
Cadastral survey.....	11,236	11,236	---
Land and realty management.....	29,395	29,395	---
Subtotal, Realty and Ownership Management.....	68,745	68,745	---
Resource Protection and Maintenance			
Resource management planning.....	6,292	6,292	---
Facilities maintenance.....	36,097	35,097	-1,000
Resource protection and law enforcement.....	12,620	11,566	-1,054
Hazardous materials management.....	15,301	15,301	---
Subtotal, Resource Protection and Maintenance...	70,310	68,256	-2,054
Automated land and mineral records system.....	33,961	31,961	-2,000
Mining Law Administration			
Administration.....	27,300	27,300	---
Fee collection.....	5,000	5,000	---
Offsetting fees.....	-32,300	-32,300	---
Subtotal, Mining Law Administration.....	---	---	---
Workforce and Organizational Support			
Information systems operations.....	15,073	15,073	---
Administrative support.....	44,637	44,637	---
Bureauwide fixed costs.....	56,871	56,871	---
Subtotal, Workforce and Organizational Support..	116,581	116,581	---
Total, Management of Lands and Resources.....	587,495	581,591	-5,904

Land resources.—The Committee recommends \$131,080,000 for land resources, including increases of \$2,172,000 for fixed costs, \$1,330,000 for the Escalante National Monument, \$2,000,000 for the abandoned mine land program, \$1,000,000 for prescribed fires, \$1,000,000 for noxious weed management, \$2,443,000 for the wild horse and burro program, and \$150,000 for Afton canyon.

The \$150,000 for the Afton canyon area of critical environmental concern is to enhance water sources for desert bighorn sheep and upland game birds.

The Committee expects the Bureau to institute a competitive bidding process for the wild horse and burro program with a minimum bid of \$125 per horse or burro. Monies received by the Bureau from this bidding process should be used as follows: (1) for responsible horse management on the range, (2) for a more effective adoption compliance monitoring program, and (3) for increased use of immunocontraception as a population management tool. In addition, if funds are available the Bureau should institute a required training program for all wild horse program employees. The Bureau should report to the Committee on the status of the wild horse and burro program by March 1, 1998.

The Committee expects the Bureau to pursue proper reimbursement for all wild horse and burro management activities performed at Nellis Air Force Base. The Bureau should be fully compensated for these activities; however, the Bureau should not condition its timely care and management of those horses and burros living on Nellis property on the state of reimbursement. The Committee does not want these animals to be neglected.

Wildlife and fisheries.—The Committee recommends \$28,778,000 for wildlife and fisheries, including increases of \$494,000 for fixed costs, \$300,000 for the Escalante National Monument, \$250,000 for wildlife management, and \$500,000 for fisheries management.

The Committee has provided \$1,500,000 for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to leverage funding with non-federal partners for innovative on-the-ground conservation projects.

Threatened and endangered species.—The Committee recommends \$16,795,000 for threatened and endangered species, including \$270,000 for the Escalante National Monument.

Recreation management.—The Committee recommends \$49,089,000 for recreation management including increases of \$844,000 for fixed costs, \$1,150,000 for the Escalante National Monument, \$1,000,000 for recreation management, and \$231,000 for challenge cost share.

The Committee recognizes the significance of national trails managed by the BLM, and within the funds provided for recreation resource management, \$100,000 is provided for the Iditarod National Historic Trail and \$200,000 for the De Anza, California, Lewis and Clark, Mormon Pioneer, Nez Perce, Oregon, and Pony Express National Historic Trails and the Pacific Crest and Continental Divide National Scenic Trails.

Energy and minerals.—The Committee recommends \$70,306,000 for energy and minerals, including Alaska minerals, which is an increase of \$803,000 above the fiscal year 1997 level and the same as the budget estimate.

The Committee has reviewed the Department's soda ash royalty study. The Committee is very concerned that the Department was unresponsive to the question relating to the appropriate method of setting Federal royalty rates when the only comparable rates are the product of a monopoly. The Committee will watch carefully how the Department deals with these issues in the future.

The long term future of fossil energy development on Federal lands continues to be a concern of the Committee. By March 31, 1998, the Bureau should report to the Committee on the current and future status of onshore oil and gas leasing, coal, and geothermal programs on Federal lands. The report among other things should address the long term projections of rentals, bonuses, and royalties including the impact on State revenues.

The Committee is concerned about the September 25, 1995 decision affecting the royalties from sodium bicarbonate. By March 1, 1998, the Department should provide to the Committee a report detailing the following information: (1) an estimate of the potential annual revenues as it is currently applied to a single facility, (2) an estimate of the potential revenues from the application of this proposal to all domestic producers of sodium bicarbonate, and (3) a timetable for implementation of this proposal.

The Department of Energy has recommended that management of the three Naval Oil Shale Reserves (NOSRs) be transferred to the Bureau of Land Management, and legislation to implement that transfer is under active consideration. After such transfer, BLM will have to prepare management plans for these areas. The Committee understands that these areas, and particularly NOSR No. 1 in Colorado, include lands of great biological and environmental significance, and expects that BLM's plans will provide for proper protection of these areas.

Realty and ownership management.—The Committee recommends \$68,745,000 for realty and ownership management, which is a decrease of \$911,000 from the fiscal year 1997 level and the same as the budget estimate.

Resource protection and maintenance.—The Committee recommends \$68,256,000 for resources protection and maintenance, including increases of \$1,122,000 for fixed costs, \$1,050,000 for the Escalante National Monument, \$1,000,000 for maintenance, and \$1,000,000 for law enforcement related to drug enforcement activities.

The unsuccessful attempt to revamp BLM law enforcement regulations raised Committee concerns regarding the management of BLM law enforcement efforts. The Committee feels that the major focus of such efforts should continue to concentrate on resource protection activities and that non-resource related violations are more appropriately handled by local law enforcement officials when possible.

Automated land and mineral records system.—The Committee recommends \$31,961,000 for the automated land and mineral records system, which is a decrease of \$10,246,000 from the fiscal year 1997 level.

Mining law administration.—The Committee recommends \$32,300,000 for mining law administration, which is the same as

the budget estimate. This activity is supported by offsetting fees equal to the amount made available in this bill.

In Title III—General Provisions, the Committee has continued a limitation on accepting and processing applications for patents and on the patenting of Federal land to claimants until mining law reform legislation is enacted. This language is identical to that carried in fiscal years 1996 and 1997.

Workforce and organizational support.—The Committee recommends \$116,581,000 for workforce and organizational support, which is an increase of \$450,000 from the fiscal year 1997 level and the same as the budget estimate.

The Committee continues to support and encourage the land management agencies to work with each other to consolidate activities at the field level as a means of achieving savings and providing improved services to the public. The Committee recognizes the Trading Post pilot program of the BLM and the Forest Service as a means to promote customer service and efficiency in the management of public lands and national forests. The Secretaries of the Interior and of Agriculture should use all the mechanisms and authorities available to them in support of the Trading Post pilot program, provided that no actions shall alter, expand, or limit the existing applicability of public laws and regulations pertaining to lands administered by the BLM or the Forest Service.

The Committee commends the Bureau's efforts to leverage its funds with non-Federal partners through its challenge cost share (CCS) program. The Committee concurs with BLM's current policy of not using CCS funds for purposes other than establishing joint activities with tribal, State, and private partners. Because each Federal dollar available for cost sharing results in two or more dollars available for on-the-ground activities, the Committee directs that a cap of 10 percent be placed on allowable BLM internal charges against CCS funds. As a result, at least 90 percent of the funds appropriated for CCS shall be available for matching partners at the field level.

The Committee seeks additional information on BLM's activities dealing with the acquisition of water rights. By March 31, 1998, the Bureau shall provide a report detailing its short- and long-term plans for acquiring non-reserved water rights and any actions dealing with Federal reserved rights. This study should include an analysis of the costs associated with these activities as well as an accounting of expenditures for water adjudications.

The Committee is concerned over a number of regulations that have been recently withdrawn by the Department because of public opposition. The Committee recognizes the need for the Department to promulgate rules; however, the Committee reminds the Department that given current budgetary constraints it is inappropriate to engage in rulemaking where the only justification for the regulatory exercise is a "plain English" rationale.

Language has been included under General Provisions, Department of the Interior to provide lump sum payment severance pay and continued health benefits to separated Federal Helium Operation employees. These special benefits will help mitigate the effect of the planned reduction in force. In accordance with the Helium

Privatization Act, any added costs associated with providing these benefits will be paid from available balances in the Helium Fund.

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$352,042,000
Budget estimate, 1998	280,103,000
Recommended, 1998	280,103,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	- 71,939,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$280,103,000 for wildland fire management, which is a decrease of \$71,939,000 from the fiscal year 1997 level and the same as the budget estimate.

The appropriation includes \$154,103,000 for preparedness and fire use and \$126,000,000 for suppression activities. The 1998 wildland fire budgets requested by the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service begin to address the Committee's concerns about fuels management and a common Interior and Forest Service wildland fire management program. However, the budgets proposed by the two agencies remain inconsistent and inadequate in some key areas.

The Committee's recommendation funds both Interior and the Forest Service at about the same percentage of the Most Efficient Level (MEL) for preparedness, 82 percent. The Committee notes that the requests from the two agencies differed in the manner in which planning and preparedness for fuels management was funded. The Committee expects that both agencies will fund all fuels management activities from the hazard fuels operations subactivity in the Operations activity. Funding for fuels management should be readily available for interagency and cross-boundary planning and projects and for interagency planning and implementation teams. Interior and the Forest Service should not charge each other for personnel and other resources. To ensure that both agencies use the same approach, the Committee requests a joint report from the two Departments no later than December 31, 1997, that explains how all fuels management activities and emergency land and water rehabilitation will be funded and implemented.

The Committee is concerned that both Interior and the Forest Service lack consistent and credible information about the fuels management situation and workload, including information about fuel loads, conditions, risk, flammability potential, fire regimes, locations, and priorities for treatment in the context of values to be protected. The 1998 request appears to contain no strategy or program for assessing priorities, for evaluating treatment alternatives (such as mechanical removal), or for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness and consequences of fuels management activities and treatments. Thus, the Committee directs that within the funding available for wildland fire preparedness and planning, up to \$4,000,000 be used to establish a fire sciences capability to supplement the current small fire research effort that primarily funds site and species specific issues. The new Interior fire science program should work closely with wildland fire programs in the Forest Service and the programs of the U.S. Geological Survey.

The Interior fire science program should have four principal purposes: (1) to establish and implement a comprehensive approach for fuels mapping and inventory that includes the location and condition of fuels, the appropriate treatment frequency, and priorities for treatment; (2) to evaluate various treatment techniques for cost effectiveness, ecological consequences, and air quality impacts; (3) based on priorities and consistent with forest plan and land management plan direction, to develop long-range schedules that describe sequencing of treatments, as appropriate, such as commercial or pre-commercial thinning and prescribed burning; and (4) to establish and implement a protocol for monitoring and evaluating fuels treatment techniques in a manner that measures performance over time and that allows conclusions to be drawn about the effectiveness and consequences of fuels management activities.

By January 1, 1998, the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service are to submit to the Committee a joint Fire Sciences Plan that includes an assessment of the current state of knowledge about fuels conditions, an integrated approach to improved fuels mapping and inventory, an approach for program monitoring and evaluation, and an approach for setting treatment priorities. The plan should evaluate non-fire fuel treatments.

Finally, the Committee is concerned that the five wildland fire management agencies do not use the same approach for wildland fire management planning. The Committee believes that it is important for all agencies to have an approach to planning that allows for consistent calculation of fire protection needs and for addressing fuels treatment needs. Beginning in fiscal year 1999, the Committee directs that the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service provide a more detailed and comprehensive budget submission that at a minimum is based on common methods and procedures.

CENTRAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FUND

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$12,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	14,900,000
Recommended, 1998	12,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	-2,900,000

The Central Hazardous Materials Fund was established to include funding for remedial investigations/feasibility studies and cleanup of hazardous waste sites for which the Department of the Interior is liable pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act and includes sums recovered from or paid by a party as reimbursement for remedial action or response activities.

The Committee recommends \$12,000,000 for the central hazardous materials fund, which is the same as the fiscal year 1997 level.

CONSTRUCTION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$4,333,000
Budget estimate, 1998	3,154,000
Recommended, 1998	3,254,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	-1,079,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+100,000

The Committee recommends \$3,254,000 for construction, which is a decrease of \$1,079,000 from the fiscal year 1997 level. The Committee has provided \$100,000 above the budget request for the Big Morongo Preserve in the Mojave Desert. These funds will be used to develop a universally accessible, including sightless person accessible, nature trail.

PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$113,500,000
Budget estimate, 1998	101,500,000
Recommended, 1998	113,500,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	+12,000,000

Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) provides for payments to local units of government containing certain federally owned lands. These payments are designed to supplement other Federal land receipt sharing payments local governments may be receiving. Payments received may be used by the recipients for any governmental purpose.

The Committee recommends \$113,500,000 for PILT, which is the same as the fiscal year 1997 level and an increase of \$12,000,000 above the budget estimate. Bill language is included to exclude any payment that is less than \$100.

LAND ACQUISITION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$10,410,000
Budget estimate, 1998	9,900,000
Recommended, 1998	12,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+1,590,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+2,100,000

The Committee recommends \$12,000,000 for land acquisition, an increase of \$1,590,000 over the enacted level and \$2,100,000 over the fiscal year 1998 budget request. This amount includes \$7,450,000 for line item projects, \$1,550,000 for emergencies, hardships and inholdings and \$3,000,000 for acquisition management.

The funds should be distributed as follows:

Area and state	Committee recommendation
Arizona Wilderness, AZ	\$1,000,000
Blanca Wildlife Habitat, CO	550,000
Bodie Bowl, CA	1,000,000
Lake Fork of the Gunnison, CO	900,000
Otay Mountains, CA	1,000,000
Santa Rosa Mountains, CA	1,000,000
West Eugene Wetlands, OR	1,000,000
Western Riverside County, CA	1,000,000
Emergencies/hardships/inholdings	1,550,000

Area and state	Committee recommendation
Acquisition management	3,000,000
Total	\$12,000,000

OREGON AND CALIFORNIA GRANT LANDS

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$103,015,000
Budget estimate, 1998	101,406,000
Recommended, 1998	101,406,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	-1,609,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Western Oregon resources management	81,078	81,078	---
Western Oregon information and resource data systems	2,180	2,180	---
Western Oregon facilities maintenance	9,354	9,354	---
Western Oregon construction and acquisition	288	288	---
Jobs in the woods	8,506	8,506	---
Total, Oregon and California Grant Lands	101,406	101,406	---

The Committee recommends \$101,406,000 for the Oregon and California grant lands, which is a decrease of \$1,609,000 from the fiscal year 1997 level and equal to the budget estimate. These funds are provided for construction and acquisition, operation and maintenance, and management activities on the revested lands in the 18 Oregon and California land grant counties of western Oregon. The Committee expects the BLM to comply with the statutory requirements of the Oregon and California Grant Lands Act to provide economic benefits to the counties adjacent to O&C forestlands.

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$9,113,000
Budget estimate, 1998	7,510,000
Recommended, 1998	9,113,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	+1,603,000

The Committee recommends an indefinite appropriation of not less than \$9,113,000 to be derived from public lands receipts and Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act lands grazing receipts. Receipts are used for construction, purchase, and maintenance of range improvements, such as seeding, fence construction, weed control, water development, fish and wildlife habitat improvement, and planning and design of these projects.

SERVICE CHARGES, DEPOSITS, AND FORFEITURES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$7,966,000
Budget estimate, 1998	7,966,000
Recommended, 1998	7,966,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends an indefinite appropriation of \$7,966,000, the budget estimate, for service charges, deposits, and forfeitures. This account uses the revenues collected under specified sections of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and other Acts to pay for reasonable administrative and other costs in connection with rights-of-way applications from the private sector, miscellaneous cost-recoverable realty cases, timber contract expenses, repair of damaged lands, the adopt-a-horse program, and the provision of copies of official public land documents.

MISCELLANEOUS TRUST FUNDS

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$7,605,000
Budget estimate, 1998	7,605,000
Recommended, 1998	7,605,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends an indefinite appropriation of \$7,605,000, the budget request, for miscellaneous trust funds. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 provides for the receipt and expenditure of moneys received as donations or gifts (section 307). Funds in this trust fund are derived from the administrative and survey costs paid by applicants for conveyance of omitted lands (lands fraudulently or erroneously omitted from original cadastral surveys), from advances for other types of surveys requested by individuals, and from contributions made by users of Federal rangelands. Amounts received from the sale of Alaska town lots are also available for expenses of sale and maintenance of townsites. Revenue from unsurveyed lands, and surveys of omitted lands, administrative costs of conveyance, and gifts and donations must be appropriated before it can be used.

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is to conserve, protect and enhance fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit of people. The Service has responsibility for migratory birds, threatened and endangered species, certain marine mammals, and land under Service control.

The Service manages nearly 94 million acres across the United States, encompassing a 509-unit National Wildlife Refuge System, additional wildlife and wetlands areas, and 65 National Fish Hatcheries. A network of law enforcement agents and port inspectors enforce Federal laws for the protection of fish and wildlife.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$526,047,000
Budget estimate, 1998	561,614,000
Recommended, 1998	591,042,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+64,995,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+29,428,000

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Ecological Services			
Endangered species			
Candidate conservation.....	4,903	4,903	---
Listing.....	5,190	5,190	---
Consultation.....	26,528	23,828	-2,700
Recovery.....	42,160	42,160	---
Subtotal, Endangered species.....	78,781	76,081	-2,700
Habitat conservation.....	56,998	58,798	+1,800
Environmental contaminants.....	9,074	9,074	---
Subtotal, Ecological Services.....	144,853	143,953	-900
Refuges and Wildlife			
Refuge operations and maintenance.....	191,951	220,500	+28,549
Law enforcement operations.....	35,964	36,743	+779
Migratory bird management.....	17,107	17,107	---
Subtotal, Refuges and Wildlife.....	245,022	274,350	+29,328
Fisheries			
Hatchery operations and maintenance.....	37,859	37,859	---
Lower Snake River compensation fund.....	11,612	11,612	---
Fish and wildlife management.....	19,729	20,729	+1,000
Subtotal, Fisheries.....	69,200	70,200	+1,000
General Administration			
Central office administration.....	13,669	13,669	---
International affairs.....	5,610	5,610	---
Regional office administration.....	22,693	22,693	---
National Conservation Training Center.....	13,063	12,063	-1,000
Servicewide administrative support.....	42,504	42,504	---
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.....	5,000	6,000	+1,000
Subtotal, General Administration.....	102,539	102,539	---
Total, Resource Management.....	561,614	591,042	+29,428

The Committee recommends \$591,042,000 for resource management, an increase of \$29,428,000 above the budget request. The Committee commends the Service on its excellent efforts to identify and prioritize its operational and maintenance backlogs. The increases recommended by the Committee are largely to address those backlogs. Increases recommended by the Committee include \$300,000 in consultation for an environmental impact statement on wolf reintroduction in Olympic NP, WA; \$1,800,000 in habitat conservation of which \$500,000 is for assistance to private landowners, \$500,000 is for the coastal program in Texas and \$800,000 is for soil erosion/flood control in Bradford County, PA as part of the Partners for Wildlife program; \$28,549,000 for refuge operations and maintenance to address the most critical operations and maintenance backlog needs; \$779,000 for law enforcement to improve the Service's ability to prevent illegal poaching and smuggling of bear viscera; \$1,000,000 for fisheries to restore riparian and in-

stream habitat; and \$1,000,000 for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. These increases are partially offset by decreases of \$3,000,000 in consultation and \$1,000,000 for the National Conservation Training Center.

Endangered Species.—The Committee recommends \$76,081,000 for the endangered species program, a decrease of \$2,700,000 below the budget request and an increase of \$8,696,000 above the fiscal year 1997 level. The Committee expects the Service to pursue aggressively its reclassification program and to downlist and delist species as quickly as possible.

The Committee has provided an increase of \$300,000 to initiate an environmental impact statement on wolf reintroduction in Olympic National Park, WA. These funds should permit the necessary review and research, and priority focus should be placed on prey base studies. The Service may use an additional \$50,000 in fiscal year 1998, within available funds, for this EIS if necessary.

Within the increase provided above the 1997 level for consultation, \$600,000 should be used to fund the Iron County habitat conservation plan in Utah contingent on the receipt of matching funds.

The Committee commends the Service's plan to assume management of the Savanna Army Depot in September 2000. In preparation for the property transfer, the Service should begin several activities at the Depot including wildlife and habitat inventories, identifying sensitive ecological areas and providing for habitat protection, identifying threatened and endangered species, and developing management and restoration strategies that maximize public access.

The Committee encourages the Service to provide the same levels of funding in fiscal year 1998 as were provided in fiscal year 1997 for the Pacific Northwest Forest Plan, for The Peregrine Fund to continue activities related to the California condor and the peregrine falcon, for the Colorado River Basin Recovery Program and for the Virgin River Integrated Resource Management Recovery Program.

The Committee urges the Service to provide at least the same level of assistance for the Natural Communities Conservation Planning (NCCP) program in southern California as in 1997. These funds are to be equally matched by private resources.

The Committee supports the efforts in New Mexico to enhance the habitat of the endangered silvery minnow. The Service should use existing Federal water allocations in New Mexico to the maximum extent possible and work with the Bureau of Reclamation and the Corps of Engineers to enhance the habitat of the silvery minnow in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

The Committee has been made aware of the significance of issues surrounding the southwestern willow flycatcher and its status as an endangered species. The Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service need to use every available tool at their disposal to address issues related to this bird and to avoid a potential shutdown of numerous activities on public lands in the southwest. The Committee believes that the agencies involved should consider the use of reprogrammed funds, as appropriate, to address these issues. The agencies also need to consider the use of local academic institutions to assist them in developing

an independent comprehensive scientific basis for decisions required by the Endangered Species Act for the southwestern willow flycatcher. The Committee is concerned that the Service has not developed either general or species-specific scientific criteria needed to make important decisions on these issues. The lack of criteria is a major factor in the criticism of the actions of Federal agencies dealing with implementing the Endangered Species Act.

The Committee expects the Service to seek to resolve potential conflicts related to the protection of the Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse and its habitat through cooperative efforts with the State of Colorado and with affected local governments, private landowners, and other concerned parties.

Habitat Conservation.—The Committee recommends \$58,798,000 for habitat conservation, an increase of \$1,800,000 above the budget request. The Committee expects the Service to increase its outreach and to provide technical assistance to private landowners and to dam owners whose hydropower projects are not up for relicensing but who may have an interest in mitigating the negative impacts on fish and wildlife resources.

The Committee understands that the Chicago Wetlands Office will continue to be funded at the same level in fiscal year 1998 as in fiscal year 1997.

The Committee understands that \$200,000 will be provided to the organization "Long Live the Kings" and the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group, through the Service's coastal program, for wild salmon enhancement demonstration activities on the Hamma Hamma River and other rivers in Hood Canal, Washington.

Within the funds available for watershed restoration in Region 1, \$300,000 should be used for a regional fisheries enhancement group initiative in coordination with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Environmental Contaminants.—The Committee recommends \$9,074,000 for the contaminants program, which is equal to the budget request.

Refuges and Wildlife.—The Committee recommends \$274,350,000 for refuges and wildlife, an increase of \$29,328,000 above the budget request. The Committee notes that the Service will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National refuge system in the year 2003. Increases recommended by the Committee are largely targeted toward decreasing the large operational and maintenance backlogs in the system. The Service has done an admirable job of identifying these backlog requirements through its "refuge operating needs system" and its "maintenance management system". The Committee expects the Service to work with the National Park Service to help its sister agency establish and implement similar backlog priority systems.

A portion of the increase provided for refuge operations and maintenance should be used to involve people, to facilitate wildlife-dependent recreational uses, and to increase educational opportunities for the public. The committee is concerned about reports of a large amount of staff time being devoted to narrow applications on certain refuges. For example, although the vast majority of visitors to the Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge in Virginia visit for wildlife observation and educational activities, a disproportionate

amount of staff time and resources are used to accommodate annual hunts on the refuge. The Committee notes that 95 percent of all visitors to the National Wildlife Refuge System engage in non-hunting activities, and the Committee expects the Service to allocate proportionately funds to ensure that refuge programs and activities benefit all refuge users.

Within the increase provided for refuge operations and maintenance, the Committee encourages the Service to proceed with an environmental assessment of the Suwannee River Sill at Okefenokee NWR, GA; to address the need for resloping and reinforcing the dikes at the Edwin B. Forsythe NWR, NJ; and to cover any increased operating costs for the environmental education and visitor contact center being constructed by the General Services Administration at the Bayou Sauvage NWR, LA.

The Committee expects the Service to give high priority to activities at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal Refuge and the associated Two Ponds Refuge in Colorado. These refuges provide important wildlife habitat and environmental education in a major metropolitan area and enjoy broad support from the public and local communities.

The Service should review its staffing needs for migratory bird management for non-game birds and include appropriate increases in the fiscal year 1999 budget request.

The Committee endorses the Service's efforts to upgrade the pay levels for on-refuge staff including refuge managers. The Committee believes that a Servicewide, standardized approach should be established to accomplish this goal and that a portion of the increase provided for refuge operations and maintenance should be set aside for this purpose.

Pollution in the Ottawa River, which flows in Lake Erie at the Ohio-Michigan border, has had a continuing and detrimental impact on the western basin of the Lake and its habitats. A historical trend of filling low-lying areas and floodplains with municipal and industrial waste has left the river so heavily contaminated with PCBs and heavy metals that it is posted with warnings to avoid contact with the water, sediment, and fish. The Maumee basin has been identified by the International Joint Commission as an Area of Concern, and the Maumee Remedial Action Plan targets the reduction of agricultural and urban runoff, remediation of dumps and landfills, and increasing wetlands and open space. The Committee recommends that the Service continue to work to restore and maintain the diversity of species in western Lake Erie, consistent with the Maumee Remedial Action Plan in particular as it is impacted by the condition of the Ottawa River.

Fisheries.—The Committee recommends \$70,200,000 for the fisheries program, an increase of \$1,000,000 above the budget request. The Committee agrees with the assessment of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation that the Service should move beyond its traditional reliance on hatcheries as a remedy for riparian and in-stream habitat restoration, and should use its expertise in the coastal ecosystems program and the Partners for Wildlife program to help accomplish fisheries habitat restoration.

General Administration.—The Committee recommends \$102,539,000 for general administration, which is equal to the

budget request. A \$1,000,000 reduction has been recommended below the budget request for the National Conservation Training Center. The Committee believes this reduction can be achieved through additional collections for non-Service training and through a surcharge on Service participants in lieu of the per diem paid for other training courses. A \$1,000,000 increase is recommended for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

The Committee is concerned about the number of personnel and the amount of funds spent on international conferences and other travel. The Service should take better advantage of current communications technology and use the resultant savings in travel expenses for on-the-ground work.

General.—The Committee encourages the Service to increase its participation in the Urban Resources Partnership Program.

Bill Language.—Language is continued under Administrative Provisions, which requires that the establishment of new refuges with funds made available in this bill be approved by the Committee through the reprogramming process. Language also is included restricting the amount of funds that can be used to implement subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) of section 4 of the Endangered Species Act.

Bill language is included in section 114 of General Provisions, Department of the Interior prohibiting the expenditure of funds to create any new regional office without the advance approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

CONSTRUCTION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$59,256,000
Budget estimate, 1998	35,921,000
Recommended, 1998	40,256,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	– 19,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+4,335,000

The Committee recommends \$40,256,000 for construction, an increase of \$4,335,000 above the budget request and a decrease of \$19,000,000 below the 1997 level. The amount recommended by the Committee includes \$34,346,000 for line item construction projects and \$5,910,000 for construction management.

The Committee agrees to the following distribution of line item construction funds:

Project	Description	Budget request	Committee recommendation	Difference
Audubon Institute, LA .....	.....	0	2,000,000	+2,000,000
Baker Island NWR, HI	Assessment/site investigation	250,000	250,000	0
Bozeman FTC, MT	Laboratory building planning	606,000	606,000	0
Crab Orchard NWR, IL	Rehab sewage treatment facilities	1,659,000	1,659,000	0
Craig Brook NFH, ME	Station rehab-final phase	3,900,000	3,900,000	0
Creston NFH, MT	Jessup Mill Dam	1,500,000	1,500,000	0
Great Swamp NWR, NJ	Green Village Disposal assessment/site investigation	250,000	250,000	0
Keauhou Bird Conservation Center, HI	Complete Construction	0	1,000,000	+1,000,000
Koyukuk/Nowitna Complex, AK	Construct 1 aircraft hangar at Galena	915,000	0	– \$915,000
Merced NWR, CA	Water distribution system	2,548,000	2,548,000	0
Nat'l Black Footed Ferret Conservation Ctr..	Phase I—planning & design	250,000	0	– 250,000

Project	Description	Budget request	Committee recommendation	Difference
Orangeburg NFH, SC	Rehab unsafe drainage canal	833,000	833,000	0
Patuxent NWR, MD	Cash Lake Dam	2,515,000	2,515,000	0
Region 2	Haz. Mat. Projects (solid waste) ...	445,000	445,000	0
Santa Ana NWR, TX	Road rehabilitation	1,208,000	1,208,000	0
SE Louisiana refuges	Health & safety	0	500,000	+500,000
Shiawassee NWR, MI	Rehab Houlihan Road Bridge	520,000	520,000	0
St. Marks NWR, FL	Replace 6 bridges	469,000	469,000	0
St. Vincent NWR, FL	Outlet Creek Bridge	186,000	186,000	0
Tennessee NWR, TN	Duck River Unit Public Access Road.	2,500,000	2,500,000	0
Tennessee NWR, TN	Replace 2 bridges	139,000	139,000	0
Togiak NWR, AK	Fourplex residence planning	335,000	335,000	0
Turnbull NWR, WA	Maintenance shop building	843,000	843,000	0
Upper Miss. NW&FR-Savanna, IL ...	Construct headquarters facility	510,000	510,000	0
Walter B. Jones Partnership for the Sounds, Pocosin Lakes NWR, NC HQ building.	Complete design and construction	0	1,900,000	+1,900,000
Wichita Mountains WR, OK	Road rehabilitation	1,840,000	1,840,000	0
Wichita Mountains WR, OK	Grama Lake & Comanche Dams ...	4,800,000	4,800,000	0
Woodbridge NWR, VA	Rehabilitation	0	100,000	+100,000
Other (non-specific):				
Bridge safety inspections .....	.....	495,000	495,000	0
Dam safety inspections .....	.....	495,000	495,000	0
Total .....	.....	\$30,011,000	\$34,346,000	+\$4,335,000

The Committee expects that \$850,000 in carryover balances from completed projects will be used for the design, manufacture and installation of educational displays and furnishings at the Silvio O. Conte NWR, MA Environmental Education Center.

NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT FUND

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$4,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	4,628,000
Recommended, 1998	4,128,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+128,000
Budget estimate, 1998	- 500,000

The purpose of the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Fund is to provide the basis for claims against responsible parties for the restoration of injured natural resources. Assessments ultimately will lead to the restoration of injured resources and reimbursement for reasonable assessment costs from responsible parties through negotiated settlements or other legal actions.

The Committee recommends \$4,128,000 for the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Fund, a decrease of \$500,000 below the budget estimate and an increase of \$128,000 above the 1997 level. The Committee has not agreed to the new management structure proposed in the budget. The proposed change would create a new headquarters bureaucracy and the Committee asks the Service to rethink its management approach for the fiscal year 1999 budget.

Bill language has been included, as proposed by the Administration, to allow the proceeds from past liquidation of stocks and other noncash payments to remain available until expended.

LAND ACQUISITION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$44,479,000
Budget estimate, 1998	44,560,000
Recommended, 1998	53,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+8,521,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+8,440,000

The Committee recommends \$53,000,000 for land acquisition, an increase of \$8,521,000 above the enacted level and \$8,440,000 above the fiscal year 1998 budget request. This amount includes \$41,140,000 for line item projects, \$1,000,000 for inholdings, \$1,000,000 for exchanges, \$1,000,000 for emergencies and hardships and \$8,860,000 for acquisition management.

The funds should be distributed as follows:

Area and State	Committee recommendation
Archie Carr NWR, FL	\$2,500,000
Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR, TX	1,000,000
Back Bay NWR, VA	2,000,000
Balcones Canyonlands NWR, TX	700,000
Big Muddy NFWR, MO	1,000,000
Bon Secour NWR (Izard tract), AL	3,000,000
Cape May NWR, NJ	3,000,000
Crocodile Lake NWR, FL	400,000
Cypress Creek NWR, IL	1,000,000
Edwin B. Forsythe NWR (including Zell tract), NJ	2,000,000
Great Swamp NWR, NJ	1,000,000
Kodiak NWR, AK	600,000
Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR, TX	2,800,000
Mashpee NWR (Bufflehead Bay tract), MA	332,000
Minnesota Valley NWR (Kelley tract), MN	2,300,000
Nisqually NWR (Black River unit), WA	1,500,000
Ottawa NWR, OH	1,000,000
Patoka River NWR, IN	500,000
Petit Manan NWR, ME	1,000,000
Rachel Carson NWR, ME	1,100,000
Rappahannock River Valley NWR, VA	2,000,000
San Diego NWR, CA	3,000,000
Southeast Louisiana Refuges, LA	2,500,000
Stewart B. McKinney NWR (Great Meadows Salt Marsh), CT	1,100,000
Wallkill River NWR (including Papakating Creek), NJ	1,268,000
Wertheim NWR (Southaven), NY	1,540,000
Western Montana, MT	1,000,000
Emergencies/hardships	1,000,000
Inholdings	1,000,000
Exchanges	1,000,000
Acquisition management	8,860,000
Total	\$53,000,000

COOPERATIVE ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$14,085,000
Budget estimate, 1998	14,000,000
Recommended, 1998	14,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	85,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$14,000,000, the budget request, for the cooperative endangered species conservation fund.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE FUND

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$10,779,000
Budget estimate, 1998	10,000,000
Recommended, 1998	10,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	779,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$10,000,000, the budget request, for the National Wildlife Refuge Fund.

Through this program the Service makes payments to counties in which Service lands are located based on their fair market value. Payments to counties will be \$14,429,000 in fiscal year 1998 with \$10,000,000 derived from this appropriation and \$4,429,000 from net refuge receipts estimated to be collected in fiscal year 1997.

REWARDS AND OPERATIONS

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$1,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	1,000,000
Recommended, 1998	1,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$1,000,000, the budget request, for rewards and operations for African elephant conservation.

The African Elephant Conservation Act of 1988 established a fund for assisting nations and organizations involved with conservation of African elephants. With this funding, the Service will provide grants to African nations with elephants and to qualified organizations and individuals with proposals to protect and manage critical populations of African elephants.

The African elephant's 60% population decline in the 1980s, from 1.3 million to less than 600,000 animals, has been stabilized by a successful international effort led by the United States to stop the ivory trade and provide antipoaching assistance through this fund. The modest support provided through this appropriation is critical for assisting rangers to fight poaching and for maintaining current population levels of the species. The Committee expects these funds to be matched by non-Federal funding to leverage private contributions to the maximum extent possible.

NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION FUND

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$9,750,000
Budget estimate, 1998	15,000,000
Recommended, 1998	10,500,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+750,000
Budget estimate, 1998	4,500,000

The Committee recommends \$10,500,000 for the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund, a decrease of \$4,500,000 below the budget request and an increase of \$750,000 above the fiscal year 1997 level. Of the amount recommended by the Committee \$10,000,000 is for habitat management and \$500,000 is for administration. The Committee expects that \$1,000,000 will be used for the small grant program initiated in fiscal year 1996.

RHINOCEROS AND TIGER CONSERVATION FUND

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$400,000
Budget estimate, 1998	400,000
Recommended, 1998	400,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$400,000, the budget request, for the rhinoceros and tiger conservation fund.

The Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act authorized the establishment of this fund to encourage conservation programs that enhance compliance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and U.S. or foreign laws prohibiting the taking or trade of rhinoceros, tigers, or their habitat.

Rhino and tiger populations have declined by more than 90% since 1970, and experts now predict the extinction of several species in the wild before the turn of the century unless there is greatly increased international assistance for antipoaching and conservation programs. The Committee expects this fund to be managed so as to emphasize assistance to countries which have a proven conservation record and which have the greatest chance of producing immediate results. The Committee further expects these funds to be matched by non-Federal funding to leverage private contributions to the maximum extent possible.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND APPRECIATION FUND

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$800,000
Budget estimate, 1998	800,000
Recommended, 1998	800,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$800,000, the budget request, for the wildlife conservation and appreciation fund.

The Partnerships for Wildlife Act authorizes the establishment of the wildlife conservation and appreciation fund account to provide grants to State fish and wildlife agencies for wildlife and conservation appreciation projects. The Act aims to conserve the entire array of diverse fish and wildlife species in the United States and to provide opportunities for the public to use and enjoy these fish and wildlife species through non-consumptive activities.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$1,154,611,000
Budget estimate, 1998	1,220,325,000
Recommended, 1998	1,232,325,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+77,714,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+12,000,000

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Park Management			
Resource stewardship.....	211,158	222,411	+11,253
Visitor services.....	287,599	291,849	+4,250
Maintenance.....	381,310	381,310	---
Park support.....	241,815	239,012	-2,803
Subtotal, Park Management.....	1,121,882	1,134,582	+12,700
External administrative costs.....	98,443	97,743	-700
Total, Operation of the National Park System....	1,220,325	1,232,325	+12,000

The Committee recommends an increase of \$77,714,000 over the fiscal year 1997 enacted level and a \$12,000,000 increase above the Administration's request for fiscal year 1998. The Committee continues to consider operational shortfalls and backlog maintenance to be its highest priority and has focused the increases on two specific areas.

The bill provides an additional \$8,000,000 for an across the board increase for every unit as well as an additional \$24,800,000, which is \$8,500,000 more than proposed in the 1998 budget for special needs parks. These areas include both new and existing units that have an immediate need for operational increases for high priority resource protection, visitor service shortfalls, serious health and safety maintenance needs and providing staff for newly created units. Also included is an increase of \$500,000 for the U.S. Park Police to establish an equipment replacement fund. The project list for the additional \$8,500,000 is that reported to the Committee in response to a question for the record of the National Park Service for fiscal year 1998.

The Committee has not agreed to a separate Everglades restoration fund as requested in the President's fiscal year 1998 budget. These funds have been placed in the appropriate park accounts to ensure good accountability. The Committee has included an additional \$101,447,000 in the National Park Service budget for the South Florida restoration effort. This includes an increase of \$1,477,000 for park management, \$12,000,000 for science related activities, \$12,000,000 in the construction account for the modified water delivery project, and \$76,000,000 to complete the Federal land acquisition needs for the Everglades National Park and the Big Cypress National Preserve. Before the Committee will consider funding for non-Federal acquisitions the Secretary is directed to submit a comprehensive acquisition plan that identifies which parcels are planned for acquisition and why those parcels are critical to the restoration effort. It is the Committee's concern that the Department does not have a clear plan for acquisition and is instead intent on acquiring any available land in the entire Everglades restoration area without having made a scientific determination of which areas will best meet the water storage needs. The Committee has provided approximately \$270,000,000 in this and previous bills for the South Florida effort since fiscal year 1994.

The Committee also has provided specific increases in several existing programs such as collections cataloging, technical communications upgrades, air quality monitoring efforts, inventory and monitoring and historic structures stabilization work. The Committee has been concerned that these critical areas have been neglected in past years, hampering Park Service efforts to identify and protect its natural, cultural, and historic resources.

In addition, several new initiatives have been funded. The Committee provides funds for a Vanishing Treasures Initiative aimed at reducing threats to ancient prehistoric ruins and historic structures in the southwest. More importantly, these funds will be used to increase staff expertise and specialized maintenance skills. The Committee notes that there has been a serious erosion of Park Service capability due to the loss of employees with these skills in recent years.

Also funded is an Abandoned Mine Lands program. At least 145 National Park units contain over 3,000 abandoned mineral land sites. Nearly 10 percent of these sites pose serious environmental threats to park water resources. These funds will help address this problem. The Committee also provides new funds for a Desert Mining Initiative specifically for the Mojave National Preserve. There are currently thousands of mining claims pending. These funds are to be used to hire minerals management specialists to begin to process these pending claims.

The Committee was unable to fund all initiatives presented in the President's budget for operations of the National Parks; many of these initiatives were new or expanding programs that did not address the critical backlog maintenance needs of the parks. These funds have been used to increase the Special Parks Initiative by \$8,500,000, focusing on serious backlog maintenance and operational shortfalls. Until such time as the Service and the Congress agree that the most serious problems are corrected, particularly those that directly impact the public, new programs and program expansion will be limited. All programs have been provided inflationary increases, and the Committee expects that funds will not be realigned to initiate new programs or program expansions which have not been agreed to by the Committee in this report.

The Committee recently approved a reprogramming of \$1,500,000 to initiate a professional training program. Base funding is included in this budget and should be contained in future year submissions. The Committee expects that this training program will be designed and implemented so that travel and related costs are kept to a minimum. The programs should be held in the regions, not in the central office, and the Service should encourage lower cost alternative approaches such as video conferencing and taped training sessions. The Park Service should submit to the Committee a plan detailing the type of training, location, and associated costs at the start of each fiscal year for Committee approval.

In addition to providing focused increases for operational shortfalls and backlog maintenance projects, the Committee has taken two actions to enhance the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program. As part of the fiscal year 1997 Emergency Supplemental Bill, the Committee included language in Section 5001 that amends the demonstration program to permit the collecting agencies to keep

100% of the funds in excess of the amount collected for fiscal year 1994. This action changes the base year and removes the 4 percent inflationary factor. In addition, the Committee recommends language in this bill which allows the Service to retain 100 percent of all fees collected through this program, of which 80 percent remains in the collecting unit.

The National Park Service has long complained about its growing backlog of maintenance needs. While the Committee expects that most of these additional funds will be used specifically to reduce the backlog maintenance problem, limited funds may be used to improve visitor services so that the American public will see immediate results.

The Committee intends to keep a very close accounting of the current maintenance backlog and how the additional funds are being used to reduce that backlog. The Park Service is directed to submit a current list of maintenance backlog projects per unit and priority, excluding all road projects that will qualify for the Federal Lands Highway Funds. The submission should also include specific criteria established by the Washington leadership used to qualify projects for the backlog list and the system the Service intends to put in place to allocate the additional dollars and monitor the progress. The Committee notes that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been able to identify and prioritize its maintenance and operational requirements in a very usable format, and continued internal resistance from the National Park Service in this regard is unacceptable.

Language is included in Section 321 of the bill which prohibits the use of the recreational fee funds to plan, design, or construct any visitor center or other permanent structure without prior approval of both the House and the Senate Committees on Appropriations. This language also applies to significant reconstruction.

The Congress has provided \$186 million to repair and rehabilitate Yosemite National Park in the fiscal year 1997 Emergency Supplemental bill. Also available is \$21 million to implement a transportation system at the park. The Service is directed to submit reports twice a year on the progress and allocation of these funds.

The Committee continues to be concerned about the excessive cost of employee housing and the lack of a National strategy for dealing with this serious problem. The Committee was pleased to learn that the Park Service plans to adopt several recommendations of the Inspector General as well as implement requirements of the Omnibus Parks Act of 1996. These include revising the housing management policy to establish procedures for determining appropriate housing types and needs service-wide, conducting a park by park needs assessment, incorporating value analysis, adopting standardized designs and completing a series of studies that will hopefully result in the ability to locate privately-built employee housing in the private sector.

The Committee strongly encourages the Park Service to avoid building new housing inside the park when affordable housing is available in nearby communities. The Committee cites Assateague Island National Seashore as an example of constructing new housing when affordable community housing was available nearby. The

Service is directed to submit a report on the progress of these efforts by February 18, 1998.

The Committee commends the Park Service for its continuing work on implementing the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA). This law, which seeks to make government more efficient and effective, places emphasis on results achieved (outcomes) rather than the effort themselves. More importantly, it provides a better framework for daily management decisions. It requires Federal agencies to justify increases or changes to a program based on performance rather than a comparison to funds and FTEs received the previous year. The Committee applauds the Park Service goal of reducing unnecessary reporting requirements while providing accountability and accomplishment information to the Congress and the American public.

The Park Service has worked very closely and cooperatively with the Committee on the initial development of its performance goals and strategic plan. The Committee expects the Service to continue that cooperation in the coming years to refine and adjust the goals as necessary to ensure that tax dollars are spent in the most effective and efficient manner.

The Committee continues to be concerned about the data on which these goals are based. The Park Service needs to make basic data collection a higher priority. The Committee directs the Service to take inventory of areas where data collection is deficient and report to the Committee by March 31, 1998, on how it intends to improve data collection in both the short and long term. The Service should consult with the General Accounting Office, which has had great difficulty obtaining important data for its various reports in recent years. In addition, a critical element to the successful implementation of the Act is linking performance goals directly to the budget. While the Committee understands the challenges to achieving this end, it strongly encourages the Park Service to begin work on meeting this objective.

The Committee directs the Park Service to continue to increase its contracting of commercial activities, with a goal of divesting itself of such activities by the end of fiscal year 1999. When services or products of equal quality and cost are available from the private sector, the Service should use the private sector. The budget savings achieved should be used to reduce the maintenance backlog. The Committee directs the Service to report to the Committee on the progress of their efforts by January 1, 1998.

The Committee also commends the Park Service on its business plan initiative. The Committee understands that four pilot projects are currently underway. This effort hopefully will result in a standardized business plan document that all parks will use to demonstrate more accurately how appropriated and other funds are used by the parks. This new accountability system should be coordinated closely with the Government Performance and Result Act requirements.

The budget request includes funding for Cache La Poudre River Corridor in the new Heritage Partnership Program. The Committee has not agreed with this recommendation; however, the Park Service is directed to begin funding this area within the operational in-

creases provided by the Committee in fiscal year 1998. This area was authorized in Public Law 104-323.

The White Sands National Monument is located amidst two major military establishments in southern New Mexico. Both installations have played important roles in the 20th century military history of America. The Committee directs the Park Service to explore the establishment of an interpretive display that explains the missions of the military installations in both a current and historical context. This should be considered as part of the White Sands general management planning process which is currently underway. The Committee expects a recommendation by March 31, 1998.

The Committee continues to be concerned over the number of days that the Newfound Gap road in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park is closed to traffic. This road is a vital link between North Carolina and Tennessee and the two most heavily visited areas within the park. The Committee provided this park with a \$943,000 increase in fiscal year 1997 and is providing an additional \$400,000 in this bill for a total increase of \$1,343,000. The Committee expects the Park Service to provide a higher level of maintenance of this road and to keep it open 365 days per year.

The Committee is very concerned about the number of fatalities that have occurred along the George Washington Memorial Parkway in the last year. The Park Service should carefully review the permanent police staffing levels for the Parkway and ensure that a sufficient number of officers are assigned to ticket speeding drivers and enforce the speed limit. A strong effort must be undertaken by the Park Service to reduce permanently the speed of cars. To further this end, the National Capital Region of the Park Service, in consultation with the Federal Highway Administration, should investigate the feasibility of using automated traffic monitoring and enforcement devices and should report these findings to the Committee. In the interim, the number of Park Police assigned to monitor speeds along the Parkway should be increased.

The Committee strongly urges the Park Service to work closely with Fairfax County to finalize the agreement relating to improvements at Belle Haven Marina. The Park Service has agreed to set aside \$200,000, the total federal share, for improvements to the area.

The Committee urges the Park Service to generate dredging estimates for the Columbia Island Marina and begin dredging as soon as the environmental assessments are completed. The Committee encourages the Park Service to continue to work with the concessionaire to identify financing mechanisms for the dredging.

A number of scientists question the natural regulation management program conducted by Yellowstone National Park as it relates to elk and bison, while others defend the approach. The Committee wishes to resolve the issue of population dynamics of the northern Yellowstone elk herd as well as the bison herd. The Committee thus directs the Service to initiate a National Academy of Sciences (Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology) review of all available science related to the management of ungulates and the ecological effects of ungulates on the range land of Yellowstone National Park and to provide recommendations for implementation

by the Service. The Committee has provided \$250,000 within available funds for this first year of a two-year study.

The Committee also wishes to address the risks of brucellosis in Yellowstone ungulates. Currently, the Service has no management plan in place to control this disease. The Committee urges the cooperation of the Service with the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) in the rapid development of a safe and effective vaccine for bison and an effective means for vaccinating wild bison.

The Service is also directed to develop a plan for vaccine implementation that will eliminate brucellosis from ungulates in Yellowstone National Park in accord with the results of the current National Academy of Science study of this issue.

The Committee recognizes the successes of the long-term cooperative relationship between the Park Service and the Forest Service in the management of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail and the coordination carried out by the Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management in the management of several other national historic trails.

The Committee strongly encourages these agencies to continue their interagency cooperation and sharing of resources in the administration of the scenic trails and to carry out the intent of the 1995 interagency agreement concerning national historic trails. The Committee has provided \$100,000 specifically for the Selma to Montgomery trail, authorized in the 1996 Omnibus Parks Act.

The Committee is concerned about the unsafe conditions at the intersection of Virginia State Routes 29 and 234 in the Manassas National Battlefield Park, Prince William County, Virginia, and directs the National Park Service to cooperate with Virginia Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration officials to make necessary improvements to the intersection.

Resource stewardship.—The Committee recommends \$222,411,000, an increase of \$29,101,000 above fiscal year 1997 and \$11,253,000 above the Administration's request. Funds include \$1,245,000 for a 1 percent across the board increase, \$9,209,000 for special need parks, \$12,000,000 for South Florida research, \$873,000 for collections cataloging upgrades at 291 parks, a \$1,000,000 increase for air quality monitoring, \$1,000,000 is provided for a new abandoned mine lands initiative, \$583,000 to hire minerals experts for the Mojave National Preserve, increases of \$2,000,000 for the inventory and monitoring initiative, \$2,000,000 for historic structures stabilization, \$1,000,000 to initiate a new vanishing treasures initiative, \$1,000,000 for cultural cyclic maintenance and \$1,458,000 for 6(c) retirement back pay and associated costs. In addition, \$2,933,000 is provided for uncontrollable expenses.

The Committee has not included the \$2,400,000 to establish 16 cooperative ecosystem study units. However, language is included in the Geological Survey section of the report providing additional guidance.

Funds for other program expansions and new initiatives in the budget have not been provided.

Visitor services.—The Committee recommends \$291,849,000, an increase of \$19,872,000 above the current fiscal year and \$4,250,000 above the Administration's request. Within these totals

are \$2,422,000 for a 1 percent across the board increase, \$9,571,000 for special need parks, \$2,878,000 for 6(c) retirement benefits and \$5,601,000 for uncontrollable expenses. The Committee agrees with a reduction of \$600,000 in non-recurring costs associated with the 1997 Presidential Inaugural.

Maintenance.—The Committee recommends \$381,310,000 an increase of \$13,612,000 above the enacted level and the same level as recommended by the Administration. The Committee has provided \$2,681,000 for a 1 percent across the board increase, \$5,016,000 for a special parks initiative, \$103,000 for safety training and \$6,212,000 for uncontrollable expenses. The Committee agrees with a reduction of \$400,000 in non-recurring costs associated with the 1997 Presidential Inaugural. Within these funds, the Committee directs the Park Service to provide \$300,000 to make improvements on the Kolob Terrace Road at Zion National Park and \$200,000 to complete renovations at the Eldora House within the Canaveral National Seashore.

Park support.—The Committee recommends \$239,012,000 an increase of \$10,045,000 above the enacted level and \$2,803,000 below the Administration's request. The Committee has provided \$1,712,000 for a 1 percent across-the-board increase, \$1,004,000 for a special parks initiative, \$963,000 to establish information management capability at seven parks, \$500,000 for information management upgrades, \$320,000 for workers compensation initiative retraining, \$970,000 for financial management upgrades and \$4,476,000 for uncontrollable expenses. The Committee has not funded the balance of program increases and new program proposals.

External administrative costs.—The Committee recommends \$97,743,000, a \$5,084,000 increase over the enacted level and \$700,000 below the request. Provided are \$1,900,000 for FTS 2000 telephone expenses and \$3,184,000 for uncontrollable expenses. Additional funding for the IDEAS initiative is not provided.

NATIONAL RECREATION AND PRESERVATION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$37,976,000
Budget estimate, 1998	42,063,000
Recommended, 1998	43,934,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+5,958,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+1,871,000

The National recreation and preservation appropriation provides for the outdoor recreation planning, preservation of cultural and national heritage resources, technical assistance to Federal, State and local agencies, administration of Historic Preservation Fund grants and statutory and contractual aid.

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Recreation programs.....	506	506	---
Natural programs.....	9,984	8,984	-1,000
Cultural programs.....	18,699	18,899	+200
International park affairs.....	1,658	1,658	---
Environmental and compliance review.....	350	350	---
Grant administration.....	1,715	1,715	---
Heritage Partnership Programs			
Commissions and grants.....	3,908	4,500	+592
Technical support.....	1,250	850	-400
Subtotal, Heritage Partnership Programs.....	5,158	5,350	+192
Statutory or Contractual Aid			
Alaska Native Cultural Center.....	750	750	---
Blackstone River Corridor.....	---	324	+324
Brown Foundation.....	102	102	---
Dayton Aviation Heritage Commission.....	48	48	---
Delaware and Lehigh Navigation Canal.....	---	329	+329
Ice Age National Scientific Reserve.....	806	806	---
Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor Commission.....	---	238	+238
Johnstown Area Heritage Association.....	50	50	---
Lackawanna Heritage.....	---	450	+450
Martin Luther King, Jr. Center.....	534	534	---
National Constitution Center, PA.....	236	236	---
Native Hawaiian culture and arts program.....	750	750	---
New Orleans Jazz Commission.....	67	67	---
Quinebaug-Shetucket National Heritage Preservation Commission.....	---	200	+200
Roosevelt Campobello International Park Commission..	650	650	---
Southwestern Penn. Heritage Preservation Commission..	---	758	+758
Wheeling National Heritage Area.....	---	180	+180
Subtotal, Statutory or Contractual Aid.....	3,993	6,472	+2,479
Total, National Recreation and Preservation.....	42,063	43,934	+1,871

Statutory or contractual aid.—The Committee recommends \$6,472,000 for this account. The Committee has not agreed to include certain heritage area projects in the new Heritage Partnership Program. The \$379,000 provided in previous years to the Steel Industry Heritage project has not been provided because they are eligible to compete with the other seven heritage projects, authorized in the Omnibus Parks Act of 1996, for the \$5.35 million provided under the Heritage program activity. The Lackawanna Heritage project, formerly funded in the construction account, has been added to Statutory Aid. Funding for the new Heritage Initiative has been provided in a separate line item.

Recreation programs.—The Committee has provided an additional \$12,000 for uncontrollable expenses.

Natural programs.—The Committee has provided an additional \$113,000 for uncontrollable expenses but has not agreed to the request for \$1,000,000 for a new watershed initiative. While the Committee continues its strong support of the River and Trails Conservation Assistance Program, there is concern over requests for new funding initiatives in the last several budgets for programs that are beyond the scope of the current assistance program. Since the Park Service has testified that there is a growing unmet need for the traditional river and trail conservation assistance, the Park Service is encouraged to focus future program increase requests on this core program. The Service is discouraged from expanding the program unless specifically authorized by the Congress.

Cultural programs.—The Committee has provided an additional \$335,000 for uncontrollable expenses.

International Park affairs.—The Committee has provided an additional \$26,000 for uncontrollable expenses.

Environmental compliance.—The Committee has provided an additional \$12,000 for uncontrollable expenses.

Grants administration.—The Committee has provided an additional \$39,000 for uncontrollable expenses.

Heritage Partnership Program.—The Committee has provided \$5,350,000 for a new Heritage Partnership Program, an increase of \$3,000,000 above the request after discounting transfers from the statutory aid program. Within this total is \$4,500,000 for grants to heritage areas in accordance with Titles I–VI and VIII–IX of Division II of Public Law 104–333 and \$850,000 for technical support. Information received by the Committee indicates that three of these areas have progressed further in their planning and are, therefore, ready to receive and match the highest annual authorized amount. Accordingly, the Essex National Heritage Area, the Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor, and the Steel Industry Heritage project are to receive the maximum allowable authorized amount in fiscal year 1998. The Service is to distribute the balance to the remaining five heritage areas based on an assessment of the proposals received from the areas. The Service is reminded that it only has Congressional authorization to work on these eight areas specified in the Omnibus Parks Act of 1996.

Bill language is included in Title III—General Provisions stipulating the conditions under which cities, towns and villages in certain counties in New York can participate in the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$36,612,000
Budget estimate, 1998	45,612,000
Recommended, 1998	40,412,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+3,800,000
Budget estimate, 1998	– 5,200,000

The Historic Preservation Fund supports the State historic preservation offices to perform a variety of functions, including: State management and administration of existing grant obligations, review and advice on Federal projects and actions, determinations, and nominations to the National Register, Tax Act certifications and technical preservation services. The States also review properties within States to develop data for planning use.

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown on the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Grants-in-aid.....	42,112	36,912	-5,200
National trust for historic preservation.....	3,500	3,500	---
Total. Historic Preservation Fund.....	45,612	40,412	-5,200

The Committee recommends \$40,412,000 which includes \$36,912,000 for grants-in-aid to the States, Indian tribes and historically black colleges and universities and \$3,500,000 for the National Trust. The Committee expects the Trust to become completely self-supporting in fiscal year 1999.

The Committee continues to be supportive of the efforts of the United Negro College Fund to identify critical rehabilitation and restoration needs of historically significant buildings. Over the years the Committee has provided \$4,200,000 for matching grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities through the United Negro College Fund to be used for ongoing projects. This funding, however, has left many unmet needs at some of the most needy colleges. Funding to begin restoration and preservation at some of the 12 historically black colleges and universities was authorized in the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996. Based on the information provided to the Committee of the most needy colleges, \$800,000 each is provided for Knoxville College, TN; Selma University, AL; Allen University, S.C; Tougaloo College, MS; and Fisk University, TN. The Committee has also provided \$200,000 to the National Park Service to prepare a comprehensive assessment of the condition of the historic structures on the campuses of the colleges authorized in the Omnibus Parks Act of 1996. The Committee will use this information to guide future funding decisions. The Service is strongly encouraged to continue to work closely with the United Negro College Fund both to help assess and prioritize projects and help identify sources of matching funds. As in the past, the Committee will only consider projects that can provide the 50% cost share. This cost share requirement also applies to the colleges funded in this bill.

CONSTRUCTION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$182,744,000
Budget estimate, 1998	150,000,000
Recommended, 1998	148,391,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	- 34,353,000
Budget estimate, 1998	- 1,609,000

The Committee recommends \$148,391,000 which is \$34,353,000 below the enacted level and \$1,609,000 below the Administration's request. The Committee recommends the following distribution of funds:

Project	Budget request	Committee recommendation
Acadia NP, ME (complete carriage roads/upgrade utilities & facilities)	\$6,500,000	\$1,200,000
Accokeek Foundation, MD (rehab environmental facilities)		200,000

Project	Budget request	Committee recommendation
Amistad NRA, TX (sewer treatment plant)	750,000	750,000
Blue Ridge Pky, NC (complete administrative building)		1,500,000
Blue Ridge Pky, TN (repair dam)	1,100,000	1,100,000
Blue Ridge Pky (EIS)		300,000
Boston NHP, MA (replace elevator)	1,600,000	1,600,000
Carlsbad Caverns NP, NM (replace water collection system)		3,752,000
Cuyahoga Valley NRA, OH (repair & rehabilitation)		4,500,000
Dayton Aviation NHP, OH-Hoover Block (restoration)		3,500,000
Delaware Water Gap NRA, PA (repair dam)	900,000	900,000
Delaware Water Gap NRA, PA (repair environ education facilities)		2,100,000
Delaware Water Gap NRA, PA (trail development)		2,000,000
Denali NP&P, AK (rehabilitate Riley Creek Utilities)	4,150,000	
Everglades NP, FL (modified water delivery)	11,900,000	11,900,000
Everglades NP, FL (replace Flamingo water line)	3,000,000	3,000,000
FDR home NHS, NY (complete water supply & curatorial)		1,540,000
Vanderbilt Mansion (heating/cooling/elec)		1,300,000
Eleanor Roosevelt (entrance road/pky)		660,000
Fort McHenry NM and Historic Shrine, MD (rehab Historic Fort Walls)	1,800,000	
Fort Necessity NB, PA-Jumonville/Braddock Grave (repair entry access, parking)		955,000
Fort Necessity NB, PA-Mt. Washington Tavern (repair entry access, parking)		1,290,000
Gateway NRA, NJ (protect entrance road)	4,800,000	
Gateway NRA, NY-Jacob Riis Park	4,500,000	
Gateway NRA, NJ (Lighthouse)		884,000
General Grant NM, NY (restoration)	900,000	900,000
Glacier Bay NP&P (emg. repairs dock)		380,000
Grand Canyon NP, AZ (purchase buses)	2,900,000	2,900,000
GW Mem Pkwy, VA-Mt. Vernon Trail (repair & rehabilitation)		300,000
Independence NHP, PA (utility replacement)	6,300,000	4,300,000
Isle Royale NP, MI (Vessel Ranger III)	2,300,000	2,300,000
Jean Lafitte NHP&P (Shoreline stabilization)		2,000,000
Lake Mead NRA, NV (replace water system)	4,700,000	1,700,000
Lewis & Clark Trail, NE (construction)		300,000
Manzanar NHS, CA (repair fence)		310,000
Marsh-Billings NHP, VT (restore carriage house)	2,400,000	
Minute Man NHP, MA (historic battle road/trail)	2,000,000	2,000,000
Mount Rainier NP, WA (construct Paradise Valley Employee Dorm)	2,452,000	
National Capital Parks-Central, DC (restore Wash. Monument)	3,500,000	1,000,000
National Capital Parks-Central, DC (Jefferson Memorial rehab)	4,500,000	4,500,000
President's Park, DC (replace HVAC)	11,500,000	11,500,000
Rutherford B. Hayes, OH (rehabilitation)		500,000
S.W. PA Heritage Comm, PA (various rehabilitation)		2,000,000
Sequoia NP, CA (replace Giant Forest facilities)	6,000,000	3,000,000
Sotterley Plantation, MD (restoration)		600,000
Stones River NB, TN (rehab & trail development)		650,000
Trail of Tears NHT, NC (museum exhibits)	600,000	600,000
Trail of Tears NHT, OK (museum exhibits)	600,000	
Upper Delaware SRR, PA (repair historic Aqueduct)		420,000
Wind Cave NP, SD (replace elevator)	1,400,000	
Zion NP, UT (purchase buses)	6,850,000	3,210,000
Total Line Item	99,902,000	90,301,000
Emg, unscheduled, housing	15,808,000	15,000,000
Planning	20,600,000	17,500,000
General Management Plan	7,725,000	7,725,000
Equipment Replacement	17,865,000	17,865,000
Grand Total Construction	¹ 161,900,000	¹ 148,391,000

¹ Includes \$11,900,000 requested in the proposed Everglades Restoration Fund.

The Committee commends the Park Service for its recent budget submissions for construction. Most of the projects have been extremely high priority items involving the replacement of water and sewer systems, major utilities, dam repairs, and long needed repairs to some of the country's most treasured monuments such as

the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials, the Washington Monument and Independence Hall.

This Committee has made backlog maintenance its highest priority and is dedicated to the task of dramatically reducing the most critical backlog maintenance projects, particularly those of a health and safety nature over the next few years. The Committee has provided funds for 19 of the 26 most critical projects requested in the budget. This budget contained some unusually expensive projects. Two items, the repairs of utility systems at the White House and the construction of the modified delivery system part of the South Florida restoration effort, totaled \$24 million alone.

The Committee also commends the Park Service for its excellent work in developing a new line item construction program which will be reflected in the fiscal year 1999 budget submission. The current system places primary emphasis on the importance of individual projects to specific parks with secondary or no consideration given to a project's contribution to the National Park System. This method oftentimes placed greater importance on the larger parks where visitation is greater. This has contributed to the large backlog in the other units. This new approach is expected to be more balanced and, combined with the additional revenues generated by the Committee's Recreational Fee Demonstration Program, should enable the Park Service to reduce dramatically its backlog of maintenance needs over the next few years.

The Committee has provided \$200,000 to the Accokeek Foundation, which provides many interpretive educational programs for school children at Piscataway Park. These funds will be matched by funds from the State of Maryland to help upgrade existing infrastructures and facilities and install new signage and exhibits.

A total of \$1,500,000 is provided to complete construction of the Blue Ridge Parkway administration building in North Carolina. The Committee provides \$300,000 to conduct an environmental impact statement of a site proposed for an interpretive center along the Blue Ridge Parkway near Roanoke, VA. Should this site be feasible, the Committee will consider the project if there is a formal agreement on the details of the partnership. This proposal should contain the total costs, provide for at least a 50/50 cost share and a commitment in writing from the Commonwealth of Virginia, or other government body, that the operations will be a non-Federal responsibility.

The Committee has provided \$3,752,000 to replace the water collection system at Carlsbad Caverns National Park. \$4,500,000 is available to the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area for repair and rehabilitation projects. A total of \$3,500,000 is included for restoration work at the Hoover Print Block which is part of the Dayton Aviation National Historical Park.

The Committee has included \$2,000,000 to continue trail work at the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and \$2,100,000 to begin restoration of housing units at the Pocono Environmental Education Center which is also part of the National Recreation Area. Included in the bill is \$1,540,000 to complete the water supply system and provide for curatorial support at the Home of FDR National Historic Site. In addition, \$1,300,000 is included to upgrade the heating, cooling, and electrical systems at the Vanderbilt

NHS and \$660,000 to upgrade the entrance road and visitor parking areas at the Eleanor Roosevelt NHS.

The Committee includes \$955,000 for repairs of entry roads and parking at Jumonville Glen and Braddock Grave Site and \$1,290,000 for repairs of entry roads and parking at the Mt. Washington Tavern both are part of the Fort Necessity National Battlefield. \$884,000 is provided to Gateway National Recreation Area in New Jersey to rehabilitate the historic Sandy Hook Lighthouse.

The Committee recognizes the need for beach replenishment work at the Sandy Hook Unit of Gateway National Recreation Area for both recreation purposes and in order to protect access to the park. However, the full scope and cost of this project is not presently known and therefore funding is not provided for this project at this time. The Committee will work with the National Park Service to define fully the project and to identify sources of funding that may be used for these purposes in the future.

A total of \$380,000 is included to make emergency repairs to park docks at Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve in Alaska. Included in the bill is \$300,000 to make repairs to the Mount Vernon Trail which is part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway in Virginia. The Committee has included \$2,000,000 for Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve for shoreline stabilization work.

The Committee has included \$300,000 to complete the Federal share of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretative Center in Nebraska. This project was authorized in Public Law 98-11. The Committee had previously appropriated \$391,000 for this project which will be available for obligation when a match has been received from private sources. When completed, this facility will be owned and operated by the State of Nebraska.

A total of \$310,000 is provided to the Manzanar National Historic Site in California for fence repairs. The Committee provides \$500,000 for rehabilitation work at the Rutherford B. Hayes home. Included in this bill is \$2,000,000 for rehabilitation work at Southwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Preservation Commission sites. The Committee has provided \$600,000 for restoration work at the historic Sotterly Plantation in Maryland. These funds have been matched by the State of Maryland.

The Committee has provided \$375,000 to complete work on a 2.6 mile historic trail and connector trail at Stones River National Battlefield. Also provided is the final \$275,000 to complete restoration work at the Fortress Rosecrans and Bragg Headquarters, which are also part of the Stones River site. Within available funds, \$150,000 is provided for a NAPA study on H.R. 682. A total of \$420,000 is included for repairs to the historic aqueduct at the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreation River. The Committee directs the National Park Service to give priority consideration to replacing dilapidated employee housing at Grand Canyon and White Sands National Monument from the emergency housing funds provided in this bill.

The Committee understands that the Park Service intends to allocate \$2,800,000 in fiscal year 1997 to continue work on the U.S. Highway 27 bypass around the Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park in Georgia. The completion of this project is one of the Committee's highest priorities. The Park Service has as-

sured the Committee that at a minimum it will provide \$8,850,000 in fiscal year 1998 from its Federal Highway Lands Program funds. The Committee expects this project to be completed in fiscal year 1999.

The Committee has provided the Park Service with \$7,725,000 for General Management Plans. Within this amount, the Committee directs the Service to provide \$200,000 to develop a cooperative management plan for Moccasin Bend, an area on the Tennessee River adjacent to Chickamauga—Chattanooga National Military Park. This site includes important aspects of human history from paleo-archaic sites to structures and artifacts associated with the Civil War and the Trail of Tears.

In undertaking this study, the Park Service should consider a broad range of factors. The study should also assess the appropriateness of direct Park Service management, as well as alternatives and their effectiveness and efficiency in protecting significant resources and providing for public enjoyment.

In undertaking the study, the Park Service should cooperate with all parties interested in the preservation and management of the site and develop a consensus management scheme. In soliciting public input, the Park Service is encouraged to consider a proposal to convene a community advisory panel as recommended by the Friends of Moccasin Bend group in Chattanooga. This study is a high priority for the Committee.

Also included is \$250,000 to conduct a study of a Northern Frontier Heritage area in New York. This study should include an assessment of the heritage area strategy authorized in the Omnibus Parks Act of 1996.

The Committee is very concerned about recent reports of the seriously decayed state of 29 buildings on the south side of Ellis Island National Monument. These buildings comprised the hospital complex for millions of immigrants who first touched American soil on Ellis Island, and they were the site for the founding of the U.S. Public Health Service. As such, the buildings represent an invaluable historical landmark. The Committee directs the National Park Service to prepare an immediate assessment of the current conditions of these historic buildings and to provide the Committee with recommendations for their stabilization. This report, which should be provided to the Committee no later than January 1, 1998, should include recommendations for both emergency stabilization and long-term rehabilitation of the south side buildings.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

(RESCISSION)

Appropriation enacted, 1997	-\$30,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	- 30,000,000
Recommended, 1998	- 30,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends a rescission of \$30,000,000 in annual contract authority provided by 16 U.S.C. 460l-10a. This authority has not been used in years and there are no plans to use it in fiscal year 1998.

LAND ACQUISITION AND STATE ASSISTANCE

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$53,915,000
Budget estimate, 1998	70,900,000
Recommended, 1998	129,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+75,085,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+58,100,000

The Committee recommends \$129,000,000 for land acquisition, an increase of \$75,085,000 from the enacted level and \$58,100,000 above the fiscal year 1998 budget request. This amount includes \$115,050,000 for line item projects, \$3,000,000 for emergencies and hardships, \$7,450,000 for acquisition management, \$2,500,000 for inholdings and \$1,000,000 for administrative expenses to manage existing grants to States.

The Committee agrees to the following distribution of funds:

Area and state	Committee recommendation
Appalachian National Scenic Trail	\$4,200,000
Chattahoochee River NRA, GA	3,000,000
Cuyahoga Valley NRA, OH	4,000,000
Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania NMP, VA	3,500,000
Golden Gate NRA (Giacomini Ranch), CA	1,550,000
Hagerman Fossil Beds NM, ID	800,000
Indiana Dunes NL, IN	3,000,000
Minute Man NHP, MA	500,000
Olympic NP (Elwha/Glides), WA	3,000,000
Saguaro NP, AZ	4,000,000
Santa Monica Mountains NRA (Backbone Trail), CA	1,000,000
South Florida—Big Cypress National Preserve, FL	10,000,000
South Florida—Everglades NP, FL	66,000,000
Sterling Forest, NY	8,500,000
Stones River NB, TN	1,000,000
Voyageurs NP, MN	1,000,000
Emergencies/hardships	3,000,000
Inholdings & exchanges	2,500,000
Land acquisition administration	7,450,000
State grants administration	1,000,000
Total	\$129,000,000

The Committee has provided \$1,000,000 for the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to help complete the Backbone Trail. To date, the Committee has appropriated over \$150,000,000 for land acquisition at this area. In recent years, the Committee has expressed concern that there was no apparent priority setting process for this acquisition. At times, lands have been purchased in random order, and support groups are oftentimes at odds over which properties are more significant.

The Committee understands that the Park Service is currently updating the Land Protection Plan for the area and strongly encourages the Service to establish clearly priorities for fee acquisition and explore opportunities for exchanges. In addition, the Committee is aware that State and private funding as well as funds from recent bond initiatives are available for acquisitions. The Committee strongly encourages these funds to be used, to the greatest extent possible, on lands within the boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. There are many priority projects across the Nation which compete for limited funding.

The Committee has provided \$66,000,000 for the Everglades National Park and \$10,000,000 for the Big Cypress National Preserve in Florida. This amount completes the federal land acquisition needs at these two parks.

The Committee directs the National Park Service to actively explore the possibility of acquiring the inholdings within Dinosaur National Monument and Rocky Mountain National Park whose owners are interested in having their lands added to these National Park System units.

EVERGLADES RESTORATION FUND

Although the Committee has not agreed with the proposed Everglades Restoration Fund account, the Committee has provided \$119,915,000 for the Everglades restoration effort. Within these amounts are \$12,000,000 for research, \$12,000,000 for modified water delivery and \$76,000,000 to complete the federal land acquisition at the Everglades National Park and the Big Cypress National Preserve. In addition, \$19,915,000 is provided for park management. These amounts are found in the operations, construction and land acquisition accounts.

UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The United States Geological Survey was established by an act of Congress on March 3, 1879 to provide a permanent Federal agency to conduct the systematic and scientific "classification of the public lands, and examination of the geological structure, mineral resources, and products of the National domain". The USGS is the Federal Government's largest earth-science research agency, the Nation's largest civilian mapmaking agency, and the primary source of data on the Nation's surface and ground water resources. Its activities include conducting detailed assessments of the energy and mineral potential of the Nation's land and offshore areas; investigating and issuing warnings of earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, and other geologic and hydrologic hazards; research on the geologic structure of the Nation; studies of the geologic features, structure, processes, and history of other planets of our solar system; topographic surveys of the Nation and preparation of topographic and thematic maps and related cartographic products; development and production of digital cartographic data bases and products; collection on a routine basis of data on the quantity, quality, and use of surface and ground water; research in hydraulics and hydrology; the coordination of all Federal water data acquisition; the scientific understanding and technologies needed to support the sound management and conservation of our Nation's biological resources; and the application of remotely sensed data to the development of new cartographic, geologic, and hydrologic research techniques for natural resources planning and management.

SURVEYS, INVESTIGATIONS, AND RESEARCH

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$740,051,000
Budget estimate, 1998	745,388,000
Recommended, 1998	755,795,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+15,744,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+10,407,000

The Committee recommends \$755,795,000 for surveys, investigations, and research, an increase of \$15,744,000 above the fiscal year 1997 level and \$10,407,000 above the budget request.

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
National Mapping Program			
National data collection and integration.....	60,916	65,096	+4,180
Earth science information management and delivery...	32,711	33,146	+435
Geographic research and applications.....	37,298	37,543	+245
Subtotal, National Mapping Program.....	130,925	135,785	+4,860
Geologic Hazards, Resource and Processes			
Geologic hazards assessments.....	73,303	71,032	-2,271
Geologic landscape and coastal assessments.....	70,515	72,986	+2,471
Geologic resource assessments.....	83,888	85,157	+1,269
Subtotal, Geologic Hazards, Resource & Processes	227,706	229,175	+1,469
Water Resources Investigations			
Water resources assessment and research.....	103,444	95,851	-7,593
Water data collection and management.....	25,868	28,247	+2,379
Federal-State program.....	63,345	66,231	+2,886
Water resources research institutes.....	1,750	4,553	+2,803
Subtotal, Water Resources Investigations.....	194,407	194,882	+475
Biological Research			
Biological research and monitoring.....	122,680	122,450	-230
Biological information management and delivery.....	11,390	11,645	+255
Cooperative research units.....	10,930	13,699	+2,769
Subtotal, Biological Research.....	145,000	147,794	+2,794
General administration	24,805	25,584	+779
Facilities	22,545	22,575	+30
Total, United States Geological Survey.....	745,388	755,795	+10,407

National mapping program.—The Committee recommends \$135,785,000 for the national mapping program including increases of \$1,860,000 for fixed costs, \$3,000,000 for the OhioView initiative, and a decrease of \$850,000 from geographic research and applications.

The Committee concurs with USGS's request to refocus funds for its Urban Dynamics initiative.

The Committee recognizes and commends the significant progress made by USGS in increasing its contracting of map and digital data production. As a result of the Committee's direction, the contracting for map and digital data production now approximates 50 percent of the funding available for these functions. The Committee expects that current USGS policies and the use of the private sector will be continued in this area. The revised budget structure approved by this Committee for the National mapping program reflects the program's evolution, new direction, and the integrated nature of its principal functions and activities. This evo-

lution of the program from a concentration on map and data production to a broader information management role suggests to the Committee that the need for a specific contracting goal in one part of this revised budget structure is no longer appropriate, and could in fact, limit the USGS ability to contract in other areas. Accordingly, the Committee expects the USGS to continue to pursue greater use of commercially available capabilities, providing private sector support for a wider range of functions within the National mapping program.

The \$3,000,000 increase provided by the Committee for mapping is in support of high-performance computing and communications at EROS Data Center. The USGS needs to augment its information access, production, and data storage systems in time to serve data that will be delivered by Landsat 7 and EOS which are scheduled for launch in 1998. The additional funding will enable the Survey to develop this infrastructure and initiate a pilot project with the OhioView Consortium to distribute remotely sensed data to a wide array of data users.

Geologic hazards, resources and processes.—The Committee recommends \$229,175,000 for geologic hazards, resources, and processes including an increase of \$2,743,000 for fixed costs and a decrease of \$2,848,000 from continental surveys. Within the recommendation, the Committee directs the USGS to continue the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping program at the fiscal year 1997 funding level, including the State and education geologic mapping efforts.

The Committee directs USGS to develop a study plan describing a collaborative research effort between NOAA and USGS on the risks and costs associated with coastal hazards, particularly from extreme storms, and report the findings to the Committee by March 15, 1998.

The Committee is very supportive of the collaborative effort between USGS and the Department of Defense (DOD) to fund the Global Seismic Network. The current funding arrangement that will continue for the foreseeable future, is designed to meet both the needs of DOD for data that can be used in monitoring the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty as well as the scientific research produced by the Survey to better understand and predict seismic events.

Water resources investigations.—The Committee recommends \$194,882,000 for water resources assessments and research, including increases of \$3,801,000 for fixed costs and decreases of \$1,425,000 from water information delivery. Funding also is included for the Water Resources Research Institutes at the fiscal year 1997 level. The Committee expects the current policy with respect to awarding competitive grants through the Water Resources Research Institutes to be continued.

The Committee has not provided any funds for the Kalamazoo initiative. The National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) program was subjected to three separate reviews during the various stages of its development by the National Academy of Sciences. The Committee has relied on these reviews to help judge the merits of this program. The Committee instructs the Survey that in the future no significant departure from the original design of NAWQA

be presented unless a National Academy review is available to substantiate the need for such a modification.

The Committee has included funding for USGS participation in the Federal Interagency National Acid Precipitation Assessment Program, including coordination and operation of the National Trends Network. The Committee feels that this is an important research activity of the USGS, and directs the USGS to continue its involvement at the fiscal year 1997 level.

The Committee encourages and expects the USGS to explore the practicality and utility of developing a cooperative partnership with the National Water Trust, a public/private consortium being developed in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Biological research.—The Committee recommends \$147,794,000 for biological research, including increases of \$2,659,000 for fixed costs, \$1,000,000 for the cooperative research units, \$2,000,000 for Federal lands research, \$500,000 for coastal habitats research, \$500,000 for Great Lakes research, \$500,000 for endocrine disrupter research, \$500,000 for information management, \$2,500,000 to establish a pilot grant program, and \$135,000 to continue funding the community-based wetlands science education activities of the Caddo Lake Scholars program.

The Committee has not approved the requested new funding for the Park Service to establish cooperative ecosystem study units. Two years ago the Committee recognized the USGS as the Department's single science agency. It is not the intent of the Committee to undermine that direction. However, the Committee recognizes that this is a unique time for land management agencies. There is a growing demand for sound science on which to base resource management decisions and at the same time limited Federal resources for science. Therefore there is a need for new partnerships and the Committee recognizes the value of cooperative activities directed to integrating the physical, biological and social sciences in evaluating scientifically sound and cost-effective approaches to address issues pertaining to the management of Federal lands. Programs that bring together resource managers, researchers, and science program administrators to examine natural resource issues from an integrated, multidisciplinary perspective are to be encouraged. While not approving the Park Service's request, the Committee encourages the Department to strengthen ties with academia and the States through cooperative university-based regional activities that leverage public and private funds and share personnel. To this end, the Committee has provided an additional \$2,500,000 within the cooperative research units to establish a pilot competitive grant program to support high priority, multidisciplinary research needs of the land management bureaus. In considering applications, the survey is to consider the extent to which the proposals could fill critical research need of the land management agencies and the extent to which grants would further partnerships between Federal agencies and private/university cooperators.

The Committee directs that no further reductions shall be made at the Tunison field station and that every effort should be made to provide additional resources for the laboratory.

General administration.—The Committee recommends \$25,584,000 for general administration, including an increase of

\$779,000 for fixed costs and a decrease of \$252,000 from executive direction support.

Facilities.—The Committee recommends \$22,575,000 for facilities, including an increase of \$30,000 for fixed costs and a decrease of \$250,000 from rental payments.

The Committee is concerned with the viability of the USGS library, which serves many users and purposes, and expects the USGS to maintain in fiscal years 1997 and 1998 funding for the library (including acquisitions) at no less than the library's fiscal year 1996 level.

MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

The Minerals Management Service is responsible for collecting, distributing, accounting and auditing revenues from mineral leases on Federal and Indian lands. In fiscal year 1998, MMS expects to collect and distribute about \$6.7 billion from more than 72,000 active Federal and Indian leases. In addition, about \$75 million in unpaid and underpaid royalties are expected to be collected through the MMS audit and negotiated settlement programs.

The MMS also manages the offshore energy and mineral resources on the Nation's Outer Continental Shelf. To date, the OCS program has been focused primarily on oil and gas leasing. Over the past few years, MMS has begun exploring the possible development of other marine mineral resources, especially sand and gravel.

With the passage of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, MMS assumed increased responsibility for oil spill research, including the promotion of increased oil spill response capabilities, and for oil spill financial responsibility certifications of offshore platforms and pipelines.

ROYALTY AND OFFSHORE MINERALS MANAGEMENT

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$156,955,000
Budget estimate, 1998	157,922,000
Recommended, 1998	139,621,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	– 17,334,000
Budget estimate, 1998	– 18,301,000

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
OCS Lands			
Leasing and environmental program.....	30,095	30,095	---
Resource evaluation.....	21,121	21,121	---
Regulatory program.....	36,277	37,277	+1,000
Information management program.....	13,941	13,941	---
Use of receipts.....	-41,000	-65,000	-24,000
Subtotal, OCS Lands.....	60,434	37,434	-23,000
Royalty Management			
Valuation and operations.....	31,284	33,376	+2,092
Compliance.....	32,312	34,919	+2,607
Indian allottee refunds.....	15	15	---
Program services office.....	2,564	2,564	---
Subtotal, Royalty Management.....	66,175	70,874	+4,699
General Administration			
Executive direction.....	1,815	1,815	---
Policy and management improvement.....	3,628	3,628	---
Administrative operations.....	12,118	12,118	---
General support services.....	13,752	13,752	---
Subtotal, General Administration.....	31,313	31,313	---
Total, Royalty and Offshore Minerals Management.....	157,922	139,621	-18,301

The Committee recommends \$139,621,000 for royalty and offshore minerals management, a decrease of \$18,301,000 below the budget request. The Committee recommendation includes increases in royalty management of \$2,092,000 in valuation and operations and \$2,607,000 in compliance and an increase of \$1,000,000 in OCS lands to establish a clearinghouse for offshore petroleum production information at the University of New Orleans. The increases in royalty management will restore that program to the fiscal year 1997 level. The increases are more than offset by the use of an additional \$24,000,000 in excess receipts in the OCS lands activity which decreases the appropriation for that program.

The current 5-Year Outer Continental Shelf Leasing Program is the most limited leasing program ever approved by the Secretary. Given this narrowing of the acreage offered for lease and the fact that U.S. oil imports now exceed 50 percent of domestic consumption, it is even more important that the MMS conduct the lease sales proposed in the program on schedule. The MMS should also minimize any further block deletions to the maximum extent practicable, particularly in the Gulf of Mexico which is undergoing a renaissance and offers the best hope the Nation has to stem the decline in domestic oil production. The entire Central and Western Gulf of Mexico Planning Areas are highly prospective hydrocarbon basins, and any further block deletions in these two planning areas should be based on sound science.

The Committee has received several expressions of concern from industry about the proposed new oil valuation regulations and expects the MMS to work diligently to address these concerns before finalizing that rulemaking.

The Committee has had a long-standing concern with respect to the MMS royalty audit program and the adequacy of the funding and staffing for that program. In fiscal year 1990 the MMS initiated a three-year initiative to place the royalty audit program on a more timely cycle. At the Committee's direction, and as a part

of that initiative, the MMS developed an annual audit plan for fiscal year 1990 and each succeeding year outlining the audits to be conducted in each of those fiscal years. The Committee expects the MMS to continue to develop an annual audit plan, and to report quarterly on actual audit activity, including completed audits by category compared with the audit plan, the status of staffing and hiring for the audit program, and any key areas of concern.

Bill Language.—Bill language has been included under General Provisions, Department of the Interior to prohibit the use of funds for Outer Continental Shelf leasing activities in several areas. The leasing restrictions included for fiscal year 1998 are similar to those in previous fiscal years. The Administration has supported continuing these provisions for another year, while updating the language to conform to the current five-year plan. The areas covered by the Committee's recommendation include Northern, Central and Southern California, the North Atlantic, Washington-Oregon, Florida, the Mid and South Atlantic, and the North Aleutian Basin in Alaska. The revision proposed by the Administration, and included by the Committee, reflects the inclusion in the five-year plan of a sale in a small area offshore Florida and Alabama that was previously under moratoria. The governors of Florida and Alabama have expressed their support for this sale which is scheduled for 2001.

OIL SPILL RESEARCH

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$6,440,000
Budget estimate, 1998	6,118,000
Recommended, 1998	6,118,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	– 322,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$6,118,000, to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, to conduct oil spill research and financial responsibility and inspection activities associated with the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, Public Law 101–380. The Committee recommendation is equal to the budget request.

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM), through its regulation and technology account, regulates surface coal mining operations to ensure that the environment is protected during those operations and that the land is adequately reclaimed once mining is completed. The OSM accomplishes this mission by providing grants to those States that maintain their own regulatory and reclamation programs and by conducting oversight of State programs. Further, the OSM administers the regulatory programs in the States that do not have their own programs and on Federal and tribal lands.

Through its abandoned mine reclamation fund account, the OSM provides environmental restoration at abandoned coal mines using tonnage-based fees collected from current coal production operations. In their unreclaimed condition these abandoned sites may endanger public health and safety or prevent the beneficial use of land and water resources. The Committee has accepted the new

business lines budget structure which was phased in last year. Funding levels for activities are provided in the new structure, and comparisons illustrate the changes relative to the new structure.

REGULATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$94,672,000
Budget estimate, 1998	93,709,000
Recommended, 1998	95,437,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+765,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+1,728,000

The Committee recommends \$95,437,000 for regulation and technology, \$1,728,000 above the budget request and \$765,000 above the 1997 funding level. The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Environmental restoration.....	90	96	+6
Environmental protection.....	72,353	73,053	+700
Technology development and transfer.....	9,502	10,006	+504
Financial management.....	738	746	+8
Executive direction.....	10,526	11,036	+510
Subtotal, Regulation and Technology.....	93,209	94,937	+1,728
Civil penalties.....	500	500	---
Total, Regulation and Technology.....	93,709	95,437	+1,728

The Committee has included a modest increase to cover partially fixed cost increases. The OSM was dramatically downsized during 1996. The Committee hopes that the OSM can now experience a period of relative stability at the same time that it increases its partnerships with States, tribes, citizens, and industry.

ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION FUND

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$177,085,000
Budget estimate, 1998	177,348,000
Recommended, 1998	179,624,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+2,539,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+2,276,000

The Committee recommends \$179,624,000 for the abandoned mine reclamation fund, an increase of \$2,276,000 above the budget request and an increase of \$2,539,000 above the 1997 funding level. The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Environmental restoration.....	165,573	167,849	+2,276
Technology development and transfer.....	1,746	1,746	---
Financial management.....	5,312	5,312	---
Executive direction.....	4,717	4,717	---
Total, Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund.....	177,348	179,624	+2,276

The Committee has included \$5,000,000, as requested, for the Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative to address acid mine drainage problems which have destroyed over 7,000 miles of streams. The Committee is encouraged by this partnership effort and the ability of the OSM to bring various governmental, non-governmental, and industry groups together to leverage federal funds to tackle this difficult problem. The Committee allocation includes an increase of \$2,000,000 to ensure priority State restoration projects are accomplished. In addition, the Committee has included \$276,000 to cover partially fixed cost increases within the OSM.

Bill Language.—The Committee has recommended continuing bill language, carried in previous years, maintaining the Federal emergency reclamation program and limiting expenditures in any one State to 25 percent of the total appropriated for Federal and State-run emergency programs. The total recommended for fiscal year 1998 is \$18 million. Bill language also is included to permit States to use prior year carryover funds from the emergency program without being subject to the 25 percent statutory limitation per State. The Committee also has recommended bill language which would fund minimum program State grants at \$1,500,000 per State and bill language which provides \$5,000,000 to be used for projects in the Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

OPERATION OF INDIAN PROGRAMS

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$1,443,502,000
Budget estimate, 1998	1,542,305,000
Recommended, 1998	1,526,815,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+83,313,000
Budget estimate, 1998	– 15,490,000

The Bureau of Indian Affairs was created in 1824; its mission is founded on a government-to-government relationship and trust responsibility that results from treaties with Native groups. The Bureau delivers services to over one million Native Americans through 12 area offices and 83 agency offices. In addition, the Bureau provides education programs to Native Americans through the operation of 118 day schools, 48 boarding schools, and 14 dormitories. Lastly, the Bureau administers more than 46 million acres of tribally owned land.

The Committee recommends \$1,526,815,000 for the operation of Indian programs, an increase of \$83,313,000 above the fiscal year 1997 level and a decrease of \$15,490,000 from the budget estimate.

The Committee agrees to all internal transfers proposed by the BIA in the budget request. Bill language is included providing for two-year funding.

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Tribal Priority Allocations			
Tribal government.....	303,117	303,117	---
Human services.....	134,928	134,928	---
Education.....	50,933	50,933	---
Public safety and justice.....	94,795	94,795	---
Community development.....	56,507	56,507	---
Resources management.....	57,772	57,772	---
Trust services.....	29,969	29,969	---
General administration.....	21,327	21,327	---
Small and needy tribes distribution.....	8,000	8,000	---
Subtotal, Tribal Priority Allocations.....	757,348	757,348	---
Other Recurring Programs			
Tribal government.....	5,000	5,000	---
Education			
School operations			
Forward-funded.....	380,909	374,290	-6,619
Other school operations.....	86,097	86,097	---
Subtotal, School operations.....	467,006	460,387	-6,619
Continuing education.....	30,411	28,411	-2,000
Subtotal, Education.....	497,417	488,798	-8,619
Community development.....	16,371	16,371	---
Resources management.....	38,377	37,627	-750
Subtotal, Other Recurring Programs.....	557,165	547,796	-9,369
Non-Recurring Programs			
Tribal government.....	2,375	2,375	---
Public safety and justice.....	584	584	---
Resources management.....	31,220	31,647	+427
Trust services.....	30,750	26,000	-4,750
Subtotal, Non-Recurring Programs.....	64,929	60,606	-4,323
Total, Tribal Budget System.....	1,379,442	1,365,750	-13,692
BIA Operations			
Central Office Operations			
Tribal government.....	2,605	2,605	---
Human services.....	704	704	---
Public safety and justice.....	2,487	2,487	---
Community development.....	984	984	---
Resources management.....	3,082	3,082	---
Trust services.....	1,549	1,549	---
General administration			
Education program management.....	2,074	2,074	---
Other general administration.....	34,254	33,854	-400
Subtotal, General administration.....	36,328	35,928	-400
Subtotal, Central Office Operations.....	47,739	47,339	-400
Area Office Operations			
Tribal government.....	1,336	1,336	---
Human services.....	969	969	---
Public safety and justice.....	568	568	---
Community development.....	3,086	3,086	---
Resources management.....	3,157	3,157	---
Trust services.....	10,761	9,363	-1,398
General administration.....	23,207	23,207	---
Subtotal, Area Office Operations.....	43,084	41,686	-1,398
Special Programs and Pooled Overhead			
Education.....	14,019	14,019	---
Public safety and justice.....	3,264	3,264	---
Community development.....	3,451	3,451	---
Resources management.....	1,320	1,320	---
Trust services.....	504	504	---
General administration.....	49,482	49,482	---
Subtotal, Special Programs and Pooled Overhead..	72,040	72,040	---
Total, BIA Operations.....	162,863	161,065	-1,798
Total, Operation of Indian Programs.....	1,542,305	1,526,815	-15,490

Tribal priority allocations.—The Committee recommends \$757,348,000 for tribal priority allocations, the same as the budget request.

The Committee supports the principles of Indian self determination and applauds the efforts of tribes to assume administration of BIA schools and programs. Currently over half of the BIA programs, including schools, are operated by tribes. The Committee also recognizes that the Bureau continues to reduce administrative costs in order to provide maximum resources directly to tribes. In particular, the Committee notes that the BIA has proposed a transfer of \$3,400,000 in downsizing savings to TPA. However, as a prerequisite to contracting for additional Federal programs, sufficient funds must be available to the BIA to pay severance and lump sum payments to those Federal employees displaced as a result of tribal contracting activity. Therefore, the Committee directs the Bureau to use up to \$3,400,000 of TPA funds to meet partially employee displacement costs related to increased contract and grant activity, including but not limited to TPA programs. While an increase is also provided for employee displacement in special program and pooled overhead, some tribes may still experience delays in contracting for BIA programs and schools. The Bureau is encouraged to work with the tribes to phase in contracting activity over time when employee displacement funds are insufficient.

Other recurring programs.—The Committee recommends \$547,796,000 for other recurring programs, including increases of \$7,697,000 for fixed costs, \$2,000,000 for Indian School Equalization Program (ISEP) funds, \$1,000,000 for student transportation, \$1,000,000 for tribally controlled community colleges and \$5,000,000 for the Indian self-determination fund, and a decrease of \$3,067,000 for internal transfers.

Within resources management \$800,000 is included for the Bering Sea Fisherman's Association, \$325,000 for the Chugach Regional Resources Commission, and \$69,000 for the Alaska Sea Otter Commission. Funding for the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (NAFWS) is continued at the fiscal year 1997 level. This funding level will ensure that NAFWS will be able to support development and protection of tribal fish and wildlife resources.

Non-recurring programs.—The Committee recommends \$60,606,000 for non-recurring programs, including increases of \$405,000 for fixed costs and \$427,000 for Gila River Farms, and a decrease of \$2,668,000 for internal transfers.

Within the \$3,000,000 provided for the "jobs in the woods" initiative, \$400,000 should continue to be used by the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission for the Wildstock Restoration Initiative.

Central office operations.—The Committee recommends \$47,339,000 for central office operations, including increases of \$940,000 for fixed costs and \$500,000 for records management, and a decrease of \$600,000 for internal transfers.

Area office operations.—The Committee recommends \$41,686,000 for area office operations, including increases of \$893,000 for fixed costs and \$2,000,000 for land records, and a decrease of \$68,000 for internal transfers.

Special programs and pooled overhead.—The Committee recommends \$72,040,000 for special programs and pooled overhead,

including increases of \$337,000 for fixed costs and \$2,000,000 for employee displacement costs, and decreases of \$1,569,000 for trust services and \$2,801,000 for internal transfers.

The Committee is disappointed with the Bureau's failure to respond adequately to the reorganization direction included in last year's report. Because of compacts, contracts, and grants, the Bureau has reduced some agency offices to less than five Federal employees that provide only limited trust functions yet the Bureau continues to identify these units as agencies. The Committee directs that these small units be consolidated into area or other agency offices. In addition, the Committee continues to believe that consolidation of area offices is viable and important to the Bureau and offers opportunities to produce significant savings. Any savings in resources made by these efforts should be available for transfer to tribes and/or tribal priority allocations subject to reprogramming after payment of employee displacement costs.

The Committee has included bill language to allow the Cibecue Community School to use carryover school operations funds for the construction of a new high school facility. The language requires compliance with applicable building codes and that any requirement for additional construction funding for this facility come from non-Federal sources.

Language has been included under Administrative Provisions, Department of the Interior, limiting the investment of Federal funds by Indian tribes to obligations of the United States or obligations that are guaranteed by the United States.

In fiscal year 1998, the Bureau should continue to pay for and provide for current levels of service to the Office of Special Trustee (OST) for Information Resource Management systems and other contractual costs to support existing mainframe computers, licenses, and other costs similar to 1997. The Committee recognizes that BIA's IRM resources are limited and that system enhancements may be needed by both BIA and OST trust systems. The Committee expects that investments in information technology will be implemented in a coordinated and cost effective manner that ensures no duplication of resources between BIA and OST, particularly in the area of telecommunications.

CONSTRUCTION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$100,531,000
Budget estimate, 1998	125,118,000
Recommended, 1998	110,751,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+10,220,000
Budget estimate, 1998	-14,367,000

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Education.....	49,179	49,179	---
Public safety and justice.....	16,500	5,400	-11,100
Resources management.....	51,321	48,321	-3,000
General administration.....	2,146	2,146	---
Construction management.....	5,972	5,705	-267
Total, Construction.....	125,118	110,751	-14,367

Education.—The Committee recommends \$49,179,000 for education construction, including increases of \$40,000 for fixed costs, \$10,000,000 for construction of the Many Farms school which is the next school on the priority list, and \$8,000,000 for FI&R to begin to address the significant backlog problems.

The Committee has continued the fiscal year 1995 bill language related to implementing the process to award grants for construction of new schools or facilities improvement and repair projects in excess of \$100,000. The language ensures that the Department can continue to implement the grant process while the permanent implementation process is under development in fiscal year 1997. The Committee expects the Department and the Bureau of Indian Affairs to continue to work cooperatively with the tribes in the development of a final implementation process. Given that the language is clear concerning negotiating the schedule of payments, the Committee has not continued the language limiting payments to two per year.

Public safety and justice.—The Committee recommends \$5,400,000 for public safety and justice, including an increase of \$1,000,000 for FI&R to begin to address the significant backlog problems.

General administration.—The Committee recommends \$7,851,000 for general administration and construction management, including an increase of \$105,000 for fixed costs.

Resources management.—The Committee recommends \$48,321,000 for resources management, including increases of \$75,000 for fixed costs and \$2,000,000 for safety of dams, and a decrease of \$5,000,000 for the Wapato irrigation project.

INDIAN LAND AND WATER CLAIM SETTLEMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS TO INDIANS

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$69,241,000
Budget estimate, 1998	59,352,000
Recommended, 1998	41,352,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	- 27,889,000
Budget estimate, 1998	- 18,000,000

The Committee recommends \$41,352,000 for Indian land and water claim settlements and miscellaneous payments to Indians, including an increase of \$11,000 for fixed costs and decreases of \$8,000,000 for Fallon, \$10,000,000 for Pyramid Lake, and \$9,900,000 for Northern Cheyenne.

INDIAN GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$5,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	5,004,000
Recommended, 1998	5,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1997	- 4,000

The Committee recommends \$5,000,000 for the Indian guaranteed loan program.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES

INSULAR AFFAIRS

ASSISTANCE TO TERRITORIES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$65,188,000
Budget estimate, 1998	67,214,000
Recommended, 1998	68,214,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+3,026,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+1,000,000

The Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) was established on August 4, 1995 through Secretarial Order No. 3191 which also abolished the former Office of Territorial and International Affairs. The OIA has important responsibilities to help the United States government fulfill its responsibilities to the four U.S. territories (Guam, American Samoa, U.S. Virgin Islands and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)) and the three freely associated states: the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau. The permanent and trust fund payments to the territories and the compact nations provide substantial financial resources to these governments. With the signing of the fiscal year 1996 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act a large re-allocation of CNMI covenant grants was achieved. This reallocation: helps the Government of Guam with the impact of Micronesian immigrants on social and education programs; meets significant capital improvement needs in American Samoa; helps rehabilitate and resettle Rongelap Atoll; and helps with a variety of other problems in the Northern Marianas.

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Territorial Assistance			
Office of Insular Affairs.....	3,849	3,849	---
Technical assistance.....	6,200	7,200	+1,000
Maintenance assistance fund.....	3,300	3,300	---
Brown tree snake.....	1,600	1,600	---
Insular management controls.....	1,491	1,491	---
Subtotal, Territorial Assistance.....	16,440	17,440	+1,000
American Samoa			
Operations grants.....	23,054	23,054	---
Northern Marianas			
Covenant grants.....	27,720	27,720	---
Total, Assistance to Territories.....	67,214	68,214	+1,000

Territorial Assistance.—The Committee recommends \$17,440,000, which is \$1,000,000 above the budget request and \$3,018,000 above the 1997 funding level. The Committee expects the OIA to work closely with the insular governments to ensure that technical assistance funding is used efficiently and that high priority needs are identified and met. The Committee is very concerned about the current adverse impacts to the islands caused by the brown tree snake and potential devastation to Hawaii. Accordingly, the Committee has funded fully the request of \$1,600,000 for this activity and has also included an increase of \$1,000,000 for other technical assistance projects so that the focus on the brown tree snake effort does not detract from needed activities elsewhere. The Committee expects the OIA to continue to play a major coordinating role in Federal efforts directed at the brown tree snake problem to ensure that these resources support the Brown Tree Snake Control Plan and that the interests of the insular areas are represented. The Committee directs the OIA to submit a report by March 31, 1998 summarizing brown tree snake control and research efforts and the collaborative effort which includes the Department of the Interior bureaus and the involvement of insular governments, as well as other Federal and non-governmental institutions.

CNMI/Covenant grants.—The Committee recommends the mandatory grants as requested, \$27,720,000. This includes the budget request of \$11,000,000 for CNMI construction, \$4,580,000 for impact aid to Guam, \$10,140,000 for American Samoa construction according to the American Samoa capital investment program as updated, and \$2,000,000 for the CNMI labor and law enforcement initiative. The Committee is concerned with administration activities regarding the immigration and minimum wage issue in the CNMI. The Committee will watch carefully the activities of the OIA to see that it works to promote economic, social, and political development that will lead to greater self-government for the territories.

American Samoa.—The Committee recommends \$23,054,000, as requested, for American Samoa operations grants. The Committee remains concerned about the need to implement meaningful reforms as outlined in the financial recovery plan, including the imposition of reasonable user fees and reduction in the size of the

government. In addition, the Committee emphasizes that it is vital for American Samoa to maintain an up-to-date capital investment plan that clearly identifies priority projects and to make this updated plan available to the Committee when the Department submits budget justifications.

Guam.—The Committee notes the \$4,580,000 payment to Guam using Covenant grant funds to address the impact resulting from the implementation of the compact of Free Association Act.

Virgin Islands.—The Committee has included no special funding for the Virgin Islands but notes that some of the \$1,000,000 increase provided for technical assistance to the OIA may be used for priority projects involving the Virgin Islands.

COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$23,538,000
Budget estimate, 1998	20,445,000
Recommended, 1998	20,445,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	– 3,093,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$20,445,000, as requested, for the compact of free association. This is \$3,093,000 below the 1997 funding level. The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Compact of Free Association – Federal services.....	7,354	7,354	---
Mandatory payments – program grant assistance.....	12,000	12,000	---
Enewetak support.....	1,091	1,091	---
Total, Compact of Free Association.....	20,445	20,445	---

Federal services assistance.—The Committee recommends \$7,354,000 as requested, an increase of \$390,000 above the 1997 funding level.

Program grant assistance.—The Committee recommends \$12,000,000 as requested, a decrease of \$1,500,000 from the 1997 funding level.

Enewetak support.—The Committee recommends \$1,091,000 as requested, the same funding level as in 1997 and previous years. The Committee remains concerned about the level of progress being made at food production, and directs the OIA to submit a report to the Committee by March 31, 1998 summarizing the status of food production and the prognosis for future food support funding needs.

Rongelap Atoll.—On September 19, 1996, an agreement regarding United States assistance in the resettlement of Rongelap Atoll was concluded between the Department of the Interior and the Rongelap Atoll local government. The Committee understands that this financial arrangement is a full and final settlement and completes the United States financial commitment. Accordingly, the

Committee recommends no additional payment be made beyond this agreement.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$58,286,000
Budget estimate, 1998	58,286,000
Recommended, 1998	58,286,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Departmental direction.....	10,836	10,836	---
Management and coordination.....	20,574	20,574	---
Hearings and appeals.....	7,039	7,039	---
Central services.....	18,637	18,637	---
Bureau of Mines workers compensation/unemployment.....	1,200	1,200	---
Total, Departmental Management.....	58,286	58,286	---

The Committee recommends \$58,286,000 for fiscal year 1998. This is the same amount as the 1997 enacted level and the fiscal year 1998 budget request. The Committee continues to urge the Department to ensure that administrative practices that consume a large amount of staff time are eliminated or greatly reduced. For example, chain of review, concurrence and sign-offs for correspondence and for programmatic documents should be limited to no more than four reviewers except in rare cases involving a major policy issue or complex legal situation.

The Committee expects that, as levels of review are reduced and employees are empowered to do their jobs, many positions will be eliminated. These positions should not be converted into additional program staff but should truly result in a reduction of FTEs. The Committee directs the Department to submit a report to the Committee by March 31, 1998 documenting by bureau actions taken to reduce administrative bureaucracy and eliminate excess positions over the last three years and planned through the year 2000.

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$35,443,000
Budget estimate, 1998	35,443,000
Recommended, 1998	35,443,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$35,443,000 which is equal to the 1997 enacted level and the fiscal year 1998 budget request. The Committee understands that the office provides essential legal

services to the Department's bureaus and has experienced a steady growth in workload in recent years.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$24,439,000
Budget estimate, 1998	24,500,000
Recommended, 1998	24,439,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	61,000

The Committee recommends \$24,439,000, the same as the enacted level and a \$61,000 decrease from the budget request.

NATIONAL INDIAN GAMING COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$1,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	1,000,000
Recommended, 1998	1,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$1,000,000, the budget request, for the National Indian Gaming Commission.

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL TRUSTEE FOR AMERICAN INDIANS

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$32,126,000
Budget estimate, 1998	39,337,000
Recommended, 1998	32,126,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	-7,211,000

The Committee recommends \$32,126,000 for the office of the special trustee for American Indians, the same as the fiscal year 1997 level and a decrease of \$7,211,000 below the budget request.

OST is proposing that 1997 and 1998 funding be used to acquire a trust system that goes beyond its direct operating responsibilities for individual Indian monies accounting, into the asset management functions of BIA, BLM, and MMS. However, the Strategic Plan provides little analysis on the interrelationship of the proposed system to existing systems and operations of the BIA, BLM, and MMS. The Committee is concerned about the lack of analysis of alternatives in the Strategic Plan given the significant resources being requested and specific GAO guidance with regard to development of the Strategic Plan. It seems infeasible that there is only one possible solution for all account types and processes. Prior to moving forward with the acquisition of any system, the Special Trustee is directed to ensure that the acquisition meets the requirements of the Information Technology Management Reform Act and has been approved by the Department. The Committee expects OST to make as much use as possible of existing and planned Departmental resources, including telecommunication resources.

The Committee is encouraged by the progress made by OST in cleaning up the IIM data base and the interim improvements made

to the current IIM system to improve accounting procedures. The Committee has no objections to the use of 1997 and 1998 funding for data cleanup and similar activities. However, activities should commence only on a coordinated basis with the affected bureaus. Funding for land records backlogs has been provided under BIA.

The Committee recognizes that there is a serious problem with records management in OST/BIA and that the cost of poor record keeping is significant. However, the Committee is not convinced that establishment of a National Indian Fiduciary Records Center is the most effective solution. Therefore, no funds should be used to implement a centralized Indian records center as currently proposed by OST. The Committee believes it is imperative to develop workable alternative records management approaches, with independent assessments of costs and benefits, that are suitable to all agencies and bureaus involved. While OST and BIA cannot entirely rely on the National Archive and Records Administration to correct its records management deficiencies, NARA does have oversight responsibilities for Federal records management functions and possesses substantial records management expertise. Accordingly, the Committee expects OST to work closely with NARA in developing and implementing records management improvements.

Funding for records management improvements may be used for joint training of OST and BIA staff; examination, disposal, and indexing of inactive records, and shipment to adequate storage facilities; contracts to develop workable alternative records management approaches; and other necessary corrective actions. The Committee expects that NARA will review any RFPs and provide advice in the selection of any contractor or expert engaged to develop and study workable alternative records management approaches. The Committee expects that these funds will be used based on a cooperative approach between BIA and OST as well as other impacted bureaus and agencies. The Committee recognizes that there are all types of records (trust and non-trust) dispersed throughout BIA in inadequate environments. The Committee expects that the examination and disposal of these records will proceed in a manner that will be cost effective for all records, not just trust records.

The Committee understands that system enhancements are needed to BIA's Land Records Information System (LRIS), including enhancements to automate historic chain-of-title information and to provide field offices automated on-line access to the ownership data within the LRIS system. Such improvements will help prevent new backlogs from forming. Funding for LRIS systems enhancements is provided under the OST appropriation in fiscal year 1998 to ensure trust reform efforts are coordinated. The Committee directs the Special Trustee to allocate from funds available for trust system improvements a minimum of \$1,000,000 for LRIS enhancements during 1998.

Based upon tribal testimony received by the Committee, tribes seem to be unanimously opposed to implementation of the Special Trustee's Strategic Plan. Given that millions of dollars were provided to OST to complete the Strategic Plan, the Committee is disturbed that the results are unacceptable to tribes. Many tribes requested that language be included directing the Special Trustee to halt implementation until tribes have reached agreement on the

plan, mainly objecting to establishment of a new entity and removal of trust functions from BIA. Generally, there appears to be support for systems improvements related to trust funds management, particularly IIM accounting. Since there is no broad support for the establishment of a new entity or a bank, the Special Trustee is directed not to plan further or implement any improvement efforts that move to or are in support of establishment of a new entity or a bank. Rather, the Special Trustee and affected bureaus, particularly BIA, should work together to develop and implement necessary reforms in a cooperative, and coordinated manner, and consult, as appropriate, with tribes on development and implementation.

The Special Trustee is reminded of the Committee directive requiring regular reports to the Committee on progress made in the trust funds area. In fiscal year 1996, the report was to be submitted quarterly within 30 days of each quarter end; the Committee received only one report for fiscal year 1996 and that report was not received until April 1997. The Committee has changed the reporting requirement to semi-annual in 1997 and expects to receive these reports in a timely manner, particularly since Congress has doubled funding for OST since 1996. The Committee expects to be kept fully informed as to the improvements planned and implemented with these resources.

GENERAL PROVISIONS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

The Committee recommends continuing several provisions carried in previous bills as follows. Sections 101 and 102 provide for emergency transfer authority with the approval of the Secretary. Section 103 provides for warehouse and garage operations and for reimbursement for those services. Section 104 provides for vehicle and other services. Section 105 provides for uniform allowances. Section 106 provides for twelve month contracts.

Section 107 prohibits implementing a final rule concerning rights-of-way under section 2477 of the Revised Statutes. This section is intended to allow time for Congress to adopt legislation clarifying the terms and scope of grants for highway rights-of-way across Federal land pursuant to section 2477 of the Revised Statutes. Historically, the Department took the position that the validity of these grants was governed by State property law because there was no general Federal law of property and no delegation of authority by Congress to interpret the terms of the statute by regulation. The Department established an administrative process for the non-adjudicatory acknowledgment of valid grants. Then as now, the courts were available to resolve disputed claims. The present contention that FLPMA, or other land management statutes enacted after the vesting of these property rights, now permits the Department to look back and re-interpret the basic terms of the grant is doubtful as a matter of law and questionable as a matter of public policy. The implications are enormous; if such a contention were valid, virtually every transfer of interest or title in Federal lands back to the founding of the Republic could be compromised. The Committee believes that the public interest will be better served if these grants to States and their political subdivisions are not put in jeopardy by the Department pending Congress-

sional clarification of these issues. Section 107 does not limit the ability of the Department to acknowledge or deny the validity of claims under RS 2477 or limit the right of grantees to litigate their claims in any court.

Sections 108 through 111 prohibit the expenditure of funds for Outer Continental Shelf leasing activities in certain areas as proposed in the budget. These provisions are addressed under the Minerals Management Service in this report.

Section 112 limits the investment of Federal funds by tribes and tribal organizations to obligations of the United States or obligations insured by the United States.

Section 113 provides authority for lump sum payments of severance pay and continued health benefits to Federal Helium Operations employees who have been separated as a result of the closure of the helium program.

Section 114 includes language requiring the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to obtain the approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations prior to the creation of any new regional office.

TITLE II—RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREST SERVICE

The U.S. Forest Service manages 192 million acres of public lands for multiple use nationwide, including lands in 44 States, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The Forest Service administers a wide variety of programs, including forest and rangeland research, State and private forestry assistance, wildfire suppression and fuels reduction, cooperative forest health programs, and human resource programs. The National Forest System (NFS) includes 156 national forests, 20 national grasslands, 4 national monuments, 9 land utilization projects, and the nation's first national tallgrass prairie established in 1996. The NFS is managed for multiple use, including timber production, recreation, wilderness, minerals, grazing, fish and wildlife habitat management, and soil and water conservation. The NFS includes about 47% of the nation's softwood inventory and supplies about 10% of the nation's softwood timber and generates approximately \$900 million per year in revenues. More than 9,000 farmers and ranchers pay for permits to graze cattle, horses, sheep and goats on 74 million acres of grassland, open forests, and other forage-producing acres of the National Forest System. Recreational use of national forest land amounted to approximately 800 million visits in 1996. The NFS includes over 125,000 miles of trails and 23,000 developed facilities, including 4,389 campgrounds, 58 major visitor centers, and about one-half of the nation's ski-lift capacity. Recreation facilities on NFS lands had a combined capacity of 2.1 million people-at-one-time in 1995. There are 51 Congressionally designated areas, including 19 national recreation areas and 7 national scenic areas. Wilderness areas cover 35 million acres, nearly two-thirds of the wilderness in the contiguous 48 States. The Forest Service also has major habitat management responsibilities for more than 3,000

species of wildlife and fish, and 10,000 plant species and provides important habitat and open space for 300 threatened or endangered species. Half of the big game and coldwater fish habitat in the nation is located on National Forest System lands and waters. In addition, in the 16 western States, where the water supply is sometimes critically short, about 55 percent of the total annual yield of water is from National Forest System lands.

The Committee is extremely concerned about the problem of forest and rangeland health. There is a great need for a comprehensive approach, including (1) insect and disease suppression and the application of science, (2) hazardous fuels and fire management through appropriate fuel reduction, including mechanical and prescribed burning, and (3) forest, range, and aquatic improvements and restoration through thinning, salvage, native vegetation management, and proper road system maintenance. The Committee recommends enhancing the nation's forest health program and has provided funding beyond that enacted last year, including increases of: (1) \$7.8 million for forest and rangeland research; (2) \$8.8 million for the forest health management accounts in State and Private Forestry; (3) \$21 million for the fuels reduction program in the wildfire operations account; and (4) \$10 million for National Forest System forest vegetation management, \$2.3 million for rangeland vegetation management, \$3.0 million for wildlife habitat management, and \$6.1 million for watershed improvements. The Committee also recommends an increase of \$4 million for road maintenance to help minimize adverse impacts to the environment and yet maintain needed public and management access to the NFS lands.

FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

Forest and rangeland research conducts research through a network of six regional research and/or experiment stations, a national forest products laboratory, and the International Institute for Tropical Forestry. Scientific information is essential for formulating policy and responsibly managing and conserving the health and productivity of all forests and rangelands of the United States.

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$179,786,000
Budget estimate, 1998	179,781,000
Recommended, 1998	187,644,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+7,858,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+7,863,000

The Committee recommends \$187,644,000 for forest and rangeland research, an increase of \$7,863,000 above the budget request and \$7,858,000 above the 1997 funding level. This funding includes, as described in the budget request, \$200,000 to continue the "CROP" project on stagnated forest lands within the Colville National Forest, \$300,000 for the landscape management project at the University of Washington, \$250,000 to support research and outreach activities at the Olympic Natural Resources Center, \$1,350,000 to support the Evanston Research Office, including \$500,000 for the ongoing Lincoln Park ecosystem restoration project, and \$250,000 for the Arid Lands Consortium. The urban forestry research studies at Syracuse, NY and UC Davis, CA

should be funded at least at the 1997 level. In addition, increased funds have been provided including \$3,000,000 to enhance the forest inventory and analysis (FIA) program for the south and southeast and \$1,000,000 to enhance forest health projects in the Rocky Mountain research station. The remainder of the increase is to cover partially fixed cost increases for the overall program.

The Committee urges the Forest Service to enhance State, industry and citizens partnerships for the FIA program and encourages the southern station to use the increased funds to strive towards a 5-year inventory cycle. The Committee urges that the increased forest health funding for the Rocky Mountain station be used for studies of the economic utilization of materials removed for fuels reduction and to inventory fuel conditions on pilot areas, as well as study options for fuel removal and prescribed fire and the effects of these options on insect and disease problems, on watershed and habitat values, and on recreational use of forest lands. The Committee expects that the research project funding levels indicated in the supporting materials to the budget justification will be followed absent a reprogramming request.

STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY

Through cooperative programs with State and local governments as well as with the forest industry and private landowners, the Forest Service helps to protect and manage 805 million acres of forest and associated watershed land. Technical and financial assistance is offered to improve fire, insect and disease control; improve harvesting, processing and monitoring of forest products; and stimulate reforestation and timber stand improvement. The Forest Service provides special expertise and disease suppression for all Federal and tribal lands, as well as cooperative assistance with the States for State and private lands. The stewardship program affects over 3.5 million acres of private forests and assists over 200,000 woodland owners. The urban and community forestry program assists over 13,000 urban areas.

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$155,461,000
Budget estimate, 1998	156,408,000
Recommended, 1998	157,922,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+2,461,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+1,514,000

The Committee recommends \$157,922,000 for State and private forestry, \$1,514,000 above the budget request and \$2,461,000 above the 1997 funding level.

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Forest Health Management			
Federal lands forest health management.....	36,690	36,690	---
Cooperative lands forest health management.....	16,300	16,300	---
Cooperative lands fire management.....	18,002	22,002	+4,000
Subtotal, Forest Health Management.....	70,992	74,992	+4,000
Cooperative Forestry			
Forest stewardship.....	23,380	23,880	+500
Stewardship incentives program.....	10,230	4,500	-5,730
Forest legacy program.....	4,006	2,000	-2,006
Urban and community forestry.....	25,500	26,750	+1,250
Economic action programs.....	9,000	11,000	+2,000
Pacific Northwest assistance programs.....	13,300	14,800	+1,500
Subtotal, Cooperative Forestry.....	85,416	82,930	-2,486
Total, State and Private Forestry.....	156,408	157,922	+1,514

Forest health management.—The Committee recommends \$74,992,000 for forest health management, which is \$4,000,000 above the budget request and \$8,826,000 above the 1997 funding level. The Federal lands forest health management account provides forest health science and suppression services for all Federal lands (BLM, NPS, FWS, and DOD) and tribal lands, and funds science and survey work for the States. The Committee is very concerned with forest health in the broad sense, and accordingly has funded fully the Forest Service request and has provided an increase of \$4,000,000 to enhance the vital partnership with the State foresters for cooperative fire management. The Committee understands that this funding level will support fully the agency's 1998 needs for insect and pest treatments (including gypsy moth suppression), inventories and assessments. If additional pest emergencies arise, the Committee would look favorably on reprogramming or supplemental funding requests. The Committee urges the Forest Service to take a comprehensive forest health view and include substantial efforts to manage and control noxious, exotic and alien plants on NFS lands. Forest health inventories and planned actions need to be incorporated into the national forest land management plans such that a complete understanding of current and desired future conditions emerges and is developed in cooperation with the public.

Cooperative forestry.—The Committee recommends \$82,930,000 for cooperative forestry, \$2,486,000 below the budget request and \$6,365,000 below the 1997 funding level. Given the great urgency and backlog of public land management funding needs, the Committee has focused its limited resources there; yet the Committee recommendation maintains the stewardship incentives program and the forest legacy program at the 1997 funding level. The Committee recommendation for urban and community forestry includes \$11,007,000 for the northeast and midwest (\$1,550,000 for the Chicago area); the urban forestry activity also includes funding for the urban resources partnership program. The Committee recommendation includes \$1,250,000 in the urban and community forestry activity and \$500,000 in the forest stewardship activity to support the northeastern Pennsylvania community forestry program. Within the economic action program the Committee has provided \$1,000,000 for the wood in transportation program as requested, \$1,150,000 for the forest products conservation and recy-

cling program as requested, and \$5,000,000 to continue the rural development through forestry program, of which \$3,000,000 is included for the northeast and midwest. The Chesapeake Bay program and the National Agroforestry Center should be funded at least at the 1997 level.

INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY

The Committee has not provided specific funding for international forestry activities, similar to the past two years. The Committee recommends that the Forest Service may, with appropriate reprogramming approval of the Committee, spend up to \$3,000,000 from benefiting functions to cover vital international activities of benefit to those programs.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$1,278,176,000
Budget estimate, 1998	1,325,672,000
Recommended, 1998	1,364,480,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+86,304,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+38,808,000

The Committee recommends \$1,364,480,000 for the National Forest System, \$38,808,000 above the budget request and \$86,304,000 above the 1997 funding level. The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Land management planning.....	133,997	36,174	-97,823
Inventory and monitoring.....	---	90,964	+90,964
Recreation Use			
Recreation management.....	168,318	170,318	+2,000
Wilderness management.....	34,069	34,069	---
Heritage resources.....	13,906	13,906	---
Subtotal, Recreation Use.....	216,293	218,293	+2,000
Wildlife, Fish and Rare Plant Habitat			
Wildlife habitat management.....	29,998	31,263	+1,265
Inland fish habitat management.....	17,157	19,157	+2,000
Anadromous fish habitat management.....	22,521	21,521	-1,000
TF&S species habitat management.....	27,218	25,763	-1,455
Subtotal, Wildlife, Fish and Rare Plant Habitat.....	96,894	97,704	+810
Rangeland Management			
Grazing management.....	29,581	25,506	-4,075
Rangeland vegetation management.....	15,807	17,807	+2,000
Subtotal, Rangeland Management.....	45,388	43,313	-2,075
Forestland Management			
Timber sales management.....	208,000	210,000	+2,000
Forestland vegetation management.....	61,765	65,765	+4,000
Subtotal, Forestland Management.....	269,765	275,765	+6,000
Soil, Water and Air Management			
Soil, water and air operations.....	24,645	26,645	+2,000
Watershed improvements.....	25,084	26,084	+1,000
Subtotal, Soil, Water and Air Management.....	49,729	52,729	+3,000
Minerals and geology management.....	35,335	36,767	+1,432
Land Ownership Management			
Real estate management.....	44,047	48,047	+4,000
Landline location.....	15,006	15,006	---
Subtotal, Land Ownership Management.....	59,053	63,053	+4,000
Infrastructure Management			
Road maintenance.....	82,974	84,974	+2,000
Facility maintenance.....	24,277	24,277	---
Subtotal, Infrastructure Management.....	107,251	109,251	+2,000
Law enforcement operations.....	61,967	63,967	+2,000
General administration.....	250,000	276,500	+26,500
Total, National Forest System.....	1,325,672	1,364,480	+38,808

Land management planning.—The Committee recommends \$36,174,000 for land management planning. This funding is provided for national forest and grassland planning, including plan amendments, revisions, and updates. The Committee notes that this funding level is equal to the budget request for this activity and is \$1,050,000 above the 1997 level. There should be no budgetary reasons for the Forest Service not to make full progress on forest planning because the Committee is recommending the requested funding level for this activity. The Committee remains very concerned with the total cost of forest planning and the lack of controls over both the cost of the activity and the products resulting. The Committee has separated out the inventory and monitoring functions from the forest planning functions so the Committee can track the true cost of forest planning, and to ensure that needed inventory and monitoring actions are funded.

The Committee urges the Forest Service to continue progress in updating out-of-date forest plans. The updated plans should incorporate realistic budgetary projections and should include a realistic outline of the program of work, and resulting costs, that are being projected and planned. There needs to be a linkage between the forest planning processes, where public input is used to make land management decisions and projections, and the budgetary formulation and allocation process. The Committee urges the Forest Service to include realistic and clear projections of the forest planning workload, with cost estimates by forest and region, in the next and subsequent budget justifications. The Committee directs the Forest Service to provide a report to the Committee by January 15, 1998 describing the methods by which the Forest Service plans to implement linkages between the budgetary formulation and allocation process and the forest planning process.

Inventory and monitoring.—The Committee recommends \$90,964,000 for inventory and monitoring activities. This funding level is \$6,839,000 below the comparable budget request and is \$4,000,000 below the 1997 funding provided for these activities. The Committee takes note of the recent General Accounting Office reports on decision making and has therefore isolated the inventory and monitoring costs so there should be no further reason for the Forest Service to continue to avoid meaningful monitoring activities. The Committee expects that the inventory and monitoring activities will be forest-plan driven and will provide reliable, scientifically sound information needed for multiple use management. The Committee urges the Forest Service to maintain information about landslide susceptibility and geological mapping as part of the forest plan inventory process. The Committee recommendation includes \$8,000,000 for watershed assessments as part of the President's Pacific Northwest plan implementation.

Recreation use.—The Committee recommends \$218,293,000 for recreation use, \$2,000,000 above the budget request and \$7,142,000 above the 1997 funding level. The Committee is pleased with the spirit of entrepreneurship and action that the Forest Service has used to implement the recreation fee demonstration program, and accordingly has increased the recreation management activity funding so that all fixed cost increases are covered. The Committee encourages the Forest Service to continue in this spirit and to be more inclusive of non-traditional recreation projects when selecting additional pilots for the demonstration program. The Committee stresses that the recreation fee demonstration authority is intended to permit the Federal agencies to enter into cooperative agreements with other Federal, State, county, city, tribal, and other governmental entities for joint fee projects. The Committee intends that: (1) under these cooperative agreements, one party may collect fees authorized under another party's jurisdiction on behalf of that party and distribute those fees to that party; (2) once fees are divided according to a mutually agreed upon cooperative agreement, the process for allocating funds prescribed in the recreation fee demonstration should apply to fees authorized by the fee demonstration; and (3) these cooperative agreements should be attached to recreation fee demonstration project business plans and included in the parties' fiscal records. Detailed instructions regard-

ing the implementation of the recreation fee demonstration project and reporting requirements are included at the front of this report so that similar requirements pertain to each of the four agencies included in the fee demonstration.

The Committee is concerned that the Forest Service has not focused sufficient resources at Lake Isabella, CA, since the Forest Service took over management of the lake a few years ago. Therefore the Committee has provided funds in the construction account to help rehabilitate facilities, and the Committee urges the Forest Service to provide substantial operational funds from the increases to various appropriate NFS activities for the recreation area, and to consider updating the forest plan to include management standards and goals for the area.

The Committee remains concerned about the methods employed to count visitation and urges the Forest Service to work with fellow land management agencies to derive compatible and consistent use measures. The Committee directs that the Forest Service report to the Committee by January 31, 1998 on visitation and use measures and the manner in which the Forest Service is improving in this area. The Committee recognizes the national significance of the Pacific Crest, Continental Divide, and Florida National Scenic Trails and the Nez Perce National Historic Trail and provides \$900,000 for their administration and an additional \$300,000 for those parts of the Appalachian, North Country and Ice Age National Scenic Trails and the Lewis & Clark, Santa Fe, Iditarod, Oregon, California, and Pony Express and Overmountain Victory National Historic trails managed by the Forest Service. The Challenge Cost Share (CCS) program funding should be as described in the budget justification and be implemented as described under administrative provisions below.

Wildlife, fish and rare plant habitat management.—The Committee recommends \$97,704,000 for wildlife, fish and rare plant habitat management, \$810,000 over the budget request and \$11,893,000 over the 1997 funding level. The funding level for the threatened, endangered and sensitive (TES) species habitat management activity includes \$90,000 for the southwestern willow flycatcher monitoring and management program at Lake Isabella, CA. The Committee encourages the Forest Service to provide technical assistance to counties on endangered species issues as appropriate. The CCS program funding should adhere to the budget justification and be implemented as described under administrative provisions below, except that the funding levels for the TES species and anadromous fish programs may be reduced because the Committee has not funded the budget request for these programs.

Rangeland management.—The Committee recommends \$43,313,000 for rangeland management, \$4,075,000 below the budget request but \$3,000,000 above the 1997 funding level. The Committee notes the progress the Forest Service is making in fulfilling the grazing allotment schedule. The Committee notes the 40% funding increase provided to this program in 1997 and so has recommended limiting the increase this year. The Committee recommends the Sharing Common Ground partnership program and has allocated \$300,000 for this program within the increase provided. The Committee also notes the progress being made regarding nox-

ious and exotic plants, and has included \$4,000,000 within the rangeland vegetation management activity for on-the-ground work to help implement the new interagency strategy. These activities should be done in an integrated, interdisciplinary fashion consistent with forest plans. Forest plans should be updated to indicate management priorities and desired future conditions regarding exotic and noxious plant issues. Future interdisciplinary needs for this program, including research, forest health management, forestland and wildlife habitat management and wildland fire management, should be clearly spelled out in future budget justifications. The rangeland vegetation management activity should strive to include \$500,000 in CCS projects.

Forestland management.—The Committee recommends \$275,765,000 for forestland management, \$6,000,000 above the budget request and \$23,997,000 above the 1997 funding level. The Committee is very concerned about the health of forests on national forest system lands and accordingly has provided a large increase to the forestland vegetation management activity. The Forest Service should use these funds to manage forests with appropriate commercial or non-commercial methods to result in healthier, well-stocked stands that will be more resistant to fires and disease problems but will still have valuable watershed and habitat value. Selection of priority stands for treatment should consider the resulting forest conditions, including the potential for fuels reduction, the potential for enhanced habitat values, as well as the potential for increased timber growth. The Forest Service should give priority for pre-commercial thinning to highly productive forests in the commercial timber base where small investments now may result in large future returns. The Forest Service is encouraged by the Committee to complete inventories of NFS old-growth forests and to exercise care to avoid inadvertently including unidentified old-growth timber in new timber sales. The Forest Service should use \$500,000 of the vegetation management funds within the CCS program so as to maximize the impact of these Federal funds. The Committee has included \$300,000 to continue the CROP program to treat stagnated stands on the Colville National Forest and \$350,000 to assist the Arid Lands Consortium. Now that the Forest Service has eliminated the reforestation backlog, the Committee has recommended (in section 322) amending the Reforestation Trust Fund Act to provide flexibility so the Forest Service can use these funds, if appropriate, for forest health enhancing activities to help reduce the backlog of lands that could benefit from management action.

Timber sales.—The Committee is aware of the widespread forest health problems in the national forests across the country. In this regard, the Committee understands that the agency can use the timber sale program as a cost-efficient tool to thin and restructure forest stands. Funds within the timber sales management account may be used for this purpose, and the agency is encouraged to make every effort to include preventive forest health treatments as part of timber salvage efforts. To facilitate the fiscal year 1998 timber sale program and to ensure the most efficient expenditure of Federal appropriations, the Committee has funded the program to produce a total sale offer of 3.8 BBF, consisting of 2.525 BBF of “green” sales, with an additional 1.275 BBF of salvage sales. The

Committee notes that this harvest level is greatly reduced from recent times and that local economies cannot withstand further reductions to this program. The Committee expects the Forest Service to allocate funding in a manner which will optimize forest plan outputs, taking full advantage of green and salvage sale preparation capacity agency-wide. Funding should be allocated to those forests which have the highest likelihood of attaining current forest plan goals, objectives, and targets.

The Committee remains extremely concerned with accomplishment of the Forest Service timber sale program and has provided significant resources to allow the agency to move forward aggressively with the national timber program for both green and salvage sales. The Committee is concerned with the escalating costs of the timber sales program and so endorsed the benefiting function concept and charge-as-worked in the 1995 budget reform so that the Congress would better be able to track and control costs. Accordingly, the funding provided for timber sales should be sufficient to cover the various interdisciplinary project-related planning, inventory and analysis needed to complete environmental clearances. To ensure that Congress is adequately informed and notified of progress and delays in implementing the fiscal year 1998 program, the Committee requests the agency continue its regular, quarterly reporting of timber sale preparation, offer, sale and harvest accomplishment—including a region by region status report. The Committee expects the reports to include detailed information on the status of the timber sales pipeline and an identification of the volumes offered, sold, and harvested categorized as net merchantable sawtimber. Timber program accomplishments should report both green and salvage timber actually sold and transferred to purchasers and on the volume offered. Any additional salvage opportunities that may arise during fiscal year 1998 should not impact green sale targets. The Committee notes that timber sales contracts are offered to accomplish specific multiple resource objectives and hence it is inappropriate for timber purchasers to be awarded contracts if they have no intention of fulfilling the contract. The Committee notes that House Report 103-551 specifically allows Forest Service managers to use scaling when selling salvage sales or thinnings. The Committee expects the Forest Service to use fully the flexibility authorized in House Report 103-551 for rapidly deteriorating timber.

The 1996 appropriations act established the timber sales pipeline restoration fund to help the Forest Service obtain supplemental funding to do timber sales planning work. The Forest Service should provide the Committee a detailed report by January 31, 1998 on the operation of this fund and the schedule and plan for its full implementation and eventual termination once the pipeline volume is restored. The report should explain how the Forest Service will provide proper accounting of activities and receipts generated by the fund and a five year plan of action for use of the fund. This action plan should be updated and resubmitted to the Committees on Appropriations annually. Timber sales using this fund should be itemized in the regular quarterly sales reports.

The government and purchasers of timber sales pursuant to section 2001(k)(3) (Public Law 104-19) reached agreement that these

sales would be replaced in order to eliminate logging of certain environmentally sensitive sales. The total costs of timber sales work for these replacement sales is estimated at \$17,000,000, of which to date the Forest Service has allocated \$10,000,000. The Committee approves an additional \$7,000,000 reprogramming of soon to be expired funds appropriated prior to fiscal year 1997. The Committee expects that this will be sufficient funding to complete the replacement timber process for section 2001(k)(3).

The Committee is also concerned about the Forest Service's inability to meet the timber harvest goals that were laid out as part of the President's Forest Plan for the Pacific Northwest even though sufficient funding has been provided to reach those goals. The Forest Service should take every action possible to reach the harvest levels promised by the President for the regions in the Option 9 plan. The Committee understands that a number of adjustments were made in Forest Service receipt accounts at the end of fiscal year 1996 to assure adequate funds were available for payments to States. Subsequently, the Northern Spotted Owl guarantee payment was made from the General Fund of the Treasury in accordance with Public Law 103-443. The Committee, therefore, encourages the Forest Service to reverse the adjustments made in 1996 before returning any funds to Treasury. The Committee also expects a report on the final actions taken by the Forest Service with regard to the 1996 payments to States. The report, submitted by January 31, 1998, should include a discussion of any policy changes being considered or implemented in 1997 with regard to the distribution of National Forest Fund receipts.

Soil, water and air management.—The Committee recommends \$52,729,000 for soil, water and air management, \$3,000,000 above the budget request and \$10,615,000 above the 1997 funding level. The Committee has provided a substantial increase to this program because of its concern for overall forest and riparian health and long term site productivity, and recognizes the vital impact of soil, hydrology, and air expertise to contribute in a team effort to solving the overall land management situation. Included within the increase is sufficient funding to coordinate with States to assure that their State implementation plans for meeting air quality standards are updated to cover any increased Forest Service prescribed fire activities that are likely to result from the increased focus on treating hazardous fuels. The Committee recommends \$25,000 for watershed monitoring at Waldo Lake, Oregon and the funding level for the CCS program should be increased to \$750,000.

Minerals and geology management.—The Committee recommends \$36,767,000 for minerals and geology management, \$1,432,000 above the budget request and \$1,000,000 above the 1997 funding level. The increase recommended by the Committee is for fixed cost increases.

Land ownership management.—The Committee recommends \$63,053,000 for land ownership management, \$4,000,000 above the budget request and \$6,000,000 above the 1997 funding level. The Committee expects the Forest Service to use the increase to enhance public service. Within the increase a minimum of \$2,000,000 is to assist the Forest Service to contribute appropriate resource input to the relicensing of various hydropower projects on NFS

lands and to assist Forest Service efforts to establish updated fair market values for hydropower facilities on NFS lands. The Committee recognizes that local communities and counties stand to benefit greatly from active Forest Service participation in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensing and relicensing process. Fees currently collected for use on National Forest System lands do not reflect fair market value because they are based on an outdated market survey. The Committee feels that it is imperative that a method be established and implemented that accurately determines fair market value for the use of federal lands for hydropower development. The Committee therefore directs the Forest Service to provide a report by January 31, 1998 on the options that could be used in determining and calculating fair market values for hydropower projects that use NFS lands and what the ramifications of a new system would be for Federal receipts. The Committee also recognizes that the Forest Service administration of hydropower projects involves a significant commitment of time and resources in meeting its statutory obligations. Congress through the passage of the Federal Power Act intended the FERC to collect funds from licensees to reimburse Federal agency contributions to the relicensing effort. This cost recovery mechanism would allow the Forest Service to participate fully in the relicensing process and ultimately provide significant benefits to forest users. The Committee therefore directs the Forest Service to provide a report to the Committee by January 31, 1998 on current expenditures and projected future collections needed to facilitate the relicensing effort. Documentation of these efforts and program needs should be made in the forest plans and should be clearly displayed in the budget justification for fiscal year 1999 and thereafter.

Infrastructure management.—The Committee recommends \$109,251,000 for infrastructure management, \$2,000,000 above the budget request and \$5,224,000 above the 1997 level. The Committee recognizes the great importance of proper road maintenance to provide access for the wide array of public service and recreation, as well as management activities, occurring on the vast NFS lands. The Committee also recognizes that the severe decline of the timber program in recent years has caused a dramatic decrease in available funds for road maintenance that is essential to provide public and government access as well as to prevent damage to soils, watersheds, streams and fish and wildlife habitat. Accordingly, the Committee has provided a substantial increase to help alleviate road maintenance problems and has doubled the funds to \$10,000,000 that may be used to decommission or obliterate roads where they are no longer needed or are in environmentally sensitive areas. In addition, the Committee directs that the funds generated as a result of 16 U.S.C. 501 be used for priority road, trail and bridge maintenance projects to reduce the backlog. This will aid public use of the NFS lands and significantly enhance environmentally sensitive areas, especially along riparian areas and streams. The Committee directs the Forest Service to provide a summary report by March 31, 1998 of facility, road and bridge maintenance, repair and replacement needs that clearly indicates the extent of the backlog and suggests a long-term plan for alleviating this situation. The report should explain how the Forest

Service will include this workload in comprehensive transportation plans, and how these transportation plans will be linked to forest plans so that the local public has an opportunity to comment on desired future conditions for public access to NFS lands.

Law enforcement operations.—The Committee recommends \$63,967,000 for law enforcement operations, an increase of \$2,000,000 above the budget request and \$4,330,000 above the 1997 funding level. The Committee is concerned about the use of Forest Service law enforcement resources in activities more appropriately handled by other law enforcement agencies. The Forest Service should collaborate and cooperate with States and local agencies to the greatest extent possible. The Committee is concerned about the expenditure of funds by the Forest Service on the Cleveland National Forest for the interdiction of illegal immigrants. The Committee notes that Forest Service law enforcement is expected to expend funds only for the protection of resources and public and employee safety. The Committee urges that neither permanent staffing nor assignment of law enforcement personnel on a temporary basis should exceed staffing levels on the Cleveland National Forest prior to initiation of Operation Gatekeeper by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

General administration.—The Committee recommends \$276,500,000 for general administration, \$26,500,000 above the budget request and \$17,147,000 above the 1997 funding level. The Committee recognizes that general administration funding has lagged severely during recent years and that the agency and department request for funding for this activity was nearly \$300 million. Hence, the Committee has provided an increase for general administration. The Committee remains concerned about the large investment in new computer equipment and information management but urges the Service to move ahead with the project 615 procurement and installation. The Committee urges the Forest Service to improve the unacceptable fiscal situation and implement integrated fiscal and budget formulation and allocation systems that can be tied to forest plan objectives and a program of work. Such a system should help implement the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993. The Committee directs that the Forest Service provide a report by March 31, 1998 documenting progress being made in these fiscal matters and a plan for future implementation, including costs and performance measures. The Forest Service should collaborate as much as possible with fellow Federal land management agencies funded in this bill when implementing computer systems, geographic information systems and software, and geographic and analytical data and procedures. The Committee does not have the resources to support duplicative systems covering the same geographic areas that may be implemented by different agencies. Due to intermingled lands, close collaboration with the Bureau of Land Management is especially warranted.

General.—The Committee is concerned about accountability for funds. Whereas the Committee has supported substantial simplification of Forest Service budget structures recently, there is an alarming tendency for the Forest Service to reprogram funds without Congressional notice or approval. As discussed by the Commit-

tee last year, the Forest Service is to maintain all specific Congressional designations, in any amount, or to submit a reprogramming request if any such designation is proposed for a change, even if it falls below the reprogramming levels specified above. There also is a lack of accountability for certain large programs. Because of this the Committee has included bill language regarding reprogramming of funds by the Forest Service.

The Committee urges the Forest Service to maintain at least the 1997 funding level for the Pacific Northwest Forest plan and urges the Service to see that the "Jobs in the Woods" program is used to hire dislocated timber and forest workers from forest dependent communities and to provide job training in support of those workers.

The Committee continues to support and encourage the land management agencies to work with each other to consolidate activities at the field level as a means of achieving savings and providing improved services to the public. The Committee recognizes the Trading Post pilot program of the BLM and the Forest Service as a means to promote customer service and efficiency in the management of public lands and national forests. The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture should use all the mechanisms and authorities available to them in support of the Trading Post pilot program, provided that no actions shall alter, expand, or limit the existing applicability of public laws and regulations pertaining to lands administered by the BLM or the Forest Service.

The Committee commends Forest Service efforts to leverage its funds with non-Federal partners through its challenge cost share (CCS) program. The Committee expects that the Forest Service will comply with the suggested CCS funding levels in the budget justification special exhibit unless otherwise noted in this report. The Committee expects that CCS funds will not be used for purposes other than establishing joint activities with tribal, State, and private partners. Because each Federal dollar available for cost sharing results in more dollars available for on-the-ground activities, the Committee directs that a cap of 10 percent be placed on allowable Forest Service internal charges against CCS funds. As a result, at least 90 percent of the funds appropriated for CCS would be available for matching partners at the field level.

The Committee encourages the Forest Service to use contracting as much as practicable in forestry, engineering and other activities. The Committee is concerned that the Forest Service allocation of funds does not provide equitable treatment to all regions. The Service should reexamine its funding allocation criteria and demonstrate in the budget justification greater equity that reflects the program of work and the potential benefits.

The Committee has included \$1,600,000 for operations at the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie.

The Committee seeks additional information on Forest Service activities dealing with the acquisition of water rights. By May 1, 1998, the Forest Service should provide a report detailing its short and long term plans for acquiring non-reserved water rights.

The Committee remains concerned, as stated last year and confirmed by GAO reports, that the Forest Service is not realizing all of the funds possible through right-of-way agreements and encour-

ages the Service to implement a market value approach to right-of-way processing to the extent feasible under existing law. The Committee commends the Cherokee National Forest's ongoing efforts to maximize public benefits accruing from investment in the Ocoee Olympic Whitewater venue and its partner efforts with the Tennessee Valley Authority, the State, and local stakeholders developing future uses of the site. As visitor numbers continue to exceed expectations at the Ocoee site, the Committee urges the Forest Service to maintain a commitment to planning and construction necessary to meet recreation needs, as well as balancing other competing demands and uses of the forest.

Administrative provisions.—Bill language is included which prevents reprogramming without the advance approval of the House and Senate Committees on appropriations in compliance with the reprogramming procedures contained in the front of this report. The Committee expects the Forest Service to seek approval for desired changes to Congressionally designated allocations to accounts, activities, and projects. The Committee has continued language limiting clearcutting in the Wayne NF, OH and the Shawnee NF, IL and continued language regarding "Jobs in the Woods" grants in the State of Washington. The Committee has included language to facilitate relocation of the San Bernardino National Forest supervisor's office to the former Norton Air Force Base. This retrofitting is estimated to cost \$1,200,000. The Committee commends such cost saving efforts and encourages other agencies to collocate at this site, as appropriate. The Committee has also included language to facilitate cooperative efforts between the Secretary and the Pinchot Institute for Conservation for the purpose of restoring the Grey Towers National Historic Landmark. The Committee expects the Institute to pursue aggressively fund raising efforts to assist the restoration of this important facility.

The Committee has continued language which requires advance submission of proposals to change regional boundaries, close regional or station headquarters offices, or change the appropriations structure, but the language does not require advance approval of efforts to change operations or boundaries at the ranger district or national forest level. The Committee notes that the new reprogramming guidelines are extremely important. The Committee expects that the guidelines will be followed in their entirety, including provisions regarding assessments, administrative overhead accounts, and initiation of new programs or changes to allocations specifically denied, limited, or increased by the Congress. The Committee directs the Forest Service to include the assessments known as national commitments, as well as similar entries or successors, as a part of the normal budget justification process, and submit a report to the Committee 90 days after this bill is enacted describing and enumerating national commitments for fiscal years 1994 through 1998 including funding sources, and accomplishments for previous years and anticipated accomplishments for proposed national commitments. The Committee is concerned that too much funding is being diverted to various "off-the-top goals" and hence funding at the field level has suffered.

The Committee has allowed the use of \$2,000,000 from benefiting functions for the National Forest Foundation which is to be used

for administrative costs and matching funds to further the multiple use and public service mission of the Forest Service.

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

Appropriation enacted, 1997 (including \$550,000,000 emergency)	\$1,080,016,000
Budget estimate, 1998	514,311,000
Recommended, 1998	599,715,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	- 480,301,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+85,404,000

The Committee recommends \$599,715,000 for wildland fire management, \$85,404,000 above the budget request, \$480,301,000 below the 1997 funding level which included \$550,000,000 in emergency appropriations, and an increase of \$69,699,000 above the 1997 funding level excluding the emergency appropriations.

The Committee supports the principles and recommendations contained in the 1995 Federal Wildland Management Policy and Review Report. The Committee has added substantial resources to aid wildfire operations, including an increase of \$21,000,000 for fuels reduction. The Committee supports the minor restructuring proposed by the Administration for the wildland fire preparedness and operations activities. The appropriation includes \$319,315,000 for preparedness and \$280,400,000 for fire operations, including \$50,000,000 for fuels reduction activities. Within the latter, natural fuels reduction activities in regions 5 and 6 are allocated at least \$8,000,000 each.

The Committee urges the Administration to release funding included in the 1997 appropriations act to repay funds borrowed from the Knutson-Vandenberg (KV) cooperative trust fund during previous wildfire emergencies. The Committee endorses the goal of fully compensating the KV fund so that essential reforestation and improvement projects supported by the fund are not diminished. Elsewhere the Committee has recommended an appropriation of \$128,000,000 to repay the KV fund for moneys advanced during previous firefighting emergencies.

The 1998 wildland fire budget requested by the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service begins to address the Committee's concerns about fuels management and a common Forest Service and Interior Department wildland fire management program. However, the budgets proposed by the two agencies remain inconsistent and inadequate in some key areas.

The Committee's recommendation funds both Interior and the Forest Service wildland fire programs at about the same percentage of the Most Efficient Level (MEL) for preparedness, 82 percent. The Committee notes that the requests from the two agencies differed in the manner in which planning and preparedness for fuels management was funded. The Committee expects that both agencies will fund all fuels management activities from the Hazard Fuels Operations subactivity in the Operations activity. Funding for fuels management should be readily available for interagency and cross-boundary planning and projects and interagency planning and implementation teams. The Forest Service and the Department of the Interior should not charge each other for personnel and other resources. To ensure that both agencies use the same ap-

proach, the Committee requests a joint report from the two Departments no later than December 31, 1997, that explains how all fuels management activities and emergency land and water rehabilitation will be funded and implemented.

The Committee is concerned that both the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior lack consistent and credible information about the fuels management situation and workload, including information about fuel loads, conditions, risk, flammability potential, fire regimes, locations, effects on other resources and priorities for treatment in the context of values to be protected. The 1998 request appears to contain no strategy or program for assessing priorities, for evaluating treatment alternatives (such as mechanical removal), or for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness and consequences of fuels management activities and treatments. Thus, the Committee directs that within the funding available for wildland fire preparedness, up to \$4,000,000 may be used to further fire sciences and management capability to supplement the current effort that primarily funds site and species specific issues. This fire science and management activity in the Forest Service should work closely with the new Interior Department fire science program and other cooperators.

The Forest Service fire management and science program is to have four principal purposes: (1) to establish and implement a comprehensive approach for fuels mapping and inventory that includes the location and condition of fuels, the appropriate treatment frequency, potential effects on other resources, and priorities for treatment; (2) to evaluate various treatment techniques for cost effectiveness, ecological consequences, and air quality impacts; (3) based on priorities and consistent with forest plan and land management plan direction, to develop long-range schedules that describe sequencing of treatments, as appropriate, such as commercial or pre-commercial thinning and prescribed burning; and (4) to establish and implement a protocol for monitoring and evaluating fuels treatment techniques in a manner that measures performance over time and that allows conclusions to be drawn about the effectiveness and consequences of fuels management activities.

By January 1, 1998, the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service are to submit to the Committee a joint Fire Sciences Plan that includes an assessment of the current state of knowledge about fuels conditions, an integrated approach to improved fuels mapping and inventory, an approach for program monitoring and evaluation, and an approach for setting treatment priorities. The plan should evaluate non-fire fuel treatments.

The Forest Service fuels treatment programs should be conducted on the basis of priorities identified through considerations of inventory data. Inventories should provide information regarding fuel conditions and ecological information as well as property and other human values potentially at risk. In establishing priorities for fuels treatment, consideration should be directed toward human health and safety, community protection, forest, range and watershed health, wildlife habitat needs, and plant community restoration and protection as well as the potential to reduce subsequent catastrophic fires. The Committee directs that there be substantial interdisciplinary coordination of this inventory and prioritization

and that the program of work be consistent with forest plans and that program interests be coordinated across budget lines and activities in order to concentrate resources for achieving forest health objectives. Forest plans should be updated as soon as practical to reflect this increased workload. The mechanical treatment and burning program should be coordinated with States and local communities, including water, air, and habitat authorities. Fuels operations funds may be blended with vegetation management, habitat management or improvements funding in NFS programs to further enhance the multiple benefits that occur from this increase in resources for fuels reduction activities.

Finally, the Committee is concerned that the five wildland fire management agencies do not use the same approach for wildland fire management planning. The Committee believes that it is important for all agencies to have an approach to planning that allows for consistent calculation of fire protection needs and for addressing fuels treatment needs. Beginning in fiscal year 1999, the Committee directs that the Forest Service provide a more detailed and comprehensive budget submission that at a minimum is based on methods and procedures in common with the Department of the Interior.

RECONSTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$180,184,000
Budget estimate, 1998	146,084,000
Recommended, 1998	160,122,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	- 20,062,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+14,038,000

The Committee recommends \$160,122,000 for reconstruction and construction, an increase of \$14,038,000 above the budget request and a decrease of \$20,062,000 below the 1997 funding level.

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Facilities			
Research	2,560	2,560	---
Fire, administrative, other	8,196	12,996	+4,800
Recreation	21,526	29,466	+7,940
Subtotal, Facilities	32,282	45,022	+12,740
Roads			
Timber roads	47,400	53,000	+5,600
Recreation roads	26,600	25,600	-1,000
General purpose roads	12,294	10,500	-1,794
Subtotal, Roads	86,294	89,100	+2,806
Trail construction	27,508	26,000	-1,508
Timber purchaser credits	---	(50,000)	(+50,000)
Total, Reconstruction and Construction	146,084	160,122	+14,038

Facilities construction and reconstruction.—The Committee recommends \$45,022,000 for facilities construction and reconstruction, an increase of \$12,740,000 above the budget request and a decrease

of \$14,952,000 from the 1997 funding level. The CCS funding levels should follow the budget justification.

The overall facilities construction funding includes:

Fire, Administrative, and other (FAO)	\$12,996,000
Recreation	29,466,000
Research	2,560,000

Fire, Administrative, Other (FAO).—The Committee recommendation for FAO facilities construction and reconstruction includes the budget request and in addition, \$1,500,000 for Boulder ranger district projects (CO), \$500,000 to complete the Wayne National Forest supervisor's office (OH), \$500,000 for the Oakridge (OR) ranger station, and \$2,300,000 for the Grey Towers National Historic Site (PA) restoration. The Committee recommends that the Forest Service carefully investigate the opportunities to collocate any new Boulder office with county, State or other appropriate institutions or use the district allocation for other more urgent recreational facility construction.

Recreation Facilities construction.—The Committee recommendation includes the budget request and in addition, the following earmarks: \$1,000,000 for Badin Lake (NC) projects, \$640,000 for Barton Flats campground (CA), \$500,000 for the Chilowee campground rehabilitation (TN), \$1,700,000 for the Cradle of Forestry (NC), \$250,000 for Lake Isabella (CA) rehabilitation projects, \$1,600,000 for Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (IL) projects, \$400,000 for Nantahala river rehabilitation projects (NC), \$1,000,000 for the Pikes Peak Summit House cost share (CO), \$100,000 for the Sawtooth Harriman trail structure (ID), \$200,000 for the Upper Ocoee corridor project (TN), and \$550,000 for Waldo Lake projects (OR). The Committee expects that State, local and other sources will be able to raise all additional funds needed to construct the Pikes Peak Summit House.

Road reconstruction and construction.—The Committee recommends \$89,100,000 for road reconstruction and construction, an increase of \$2,806,000 above the budget request and a reduction of \$3,900,000 below the 1997 funding level. The Committee recommendations for timber roads is \$6,000,000 less than that appropriated in 1997; the recommendation for recreation roads is \$1,100,000 above the 1997 funding level; and the recommendation for general purpose roads is \$1,000,000 above the 1997 funding level. The Committee is very concerned that the vast NFS lands have sufficient roads to provide public access and access for management activities and that these roads be maintained and built to standards that do not cause adverse impacts to watersheds. The Committee recommendation provides \$20,000,000 to reconstruct 180 miles of roads and \$1,500,000 to build directly only 8 miles of new roads in the entire NFS system, an area comprising nearly 9% of the United States. Engineering support is provided to the purchaser credit and purchaser elect programs to provide for the reconstruction of an additional estimated 2000 miles of roads and construction of 300 miles of new roads. The Committee expects that road decommissioning and closures will considerably exceed the extent of new road construction. The Committee emphasizes that in an area as vast as the national forest system, it is essential to pub-

lic service and management activities that there be provisions made to build at least some new roads, yet the Committee is greatly limiting the extent of this activity compared to the recent past.

The Committee is concerned that the Forest Service needs to update transportation plans and make them fit the current and future needs for environmentally sensitive forest management that is consistent with forest plans and developed with local community input. Accordingly, the Committee directs the Forest Service to revise its transportation planning procedures and to incorporate them into the forest planning process and to display clearly to the public the intended transportation systems that are needed for public access, for routine management actions, and to provide access in the case of fires. The Committee also directs the Forest Service to report by February 15, 1998 on its progress in updating the transportation planning process. This report should also provide an overview of the extent of the national forest system road system, the means by which the Forest Service intends to decommission any unneeded or environmentally substandard roads, and a schedule and plan to bring the system in line with future projected public and management needs.

Timber purchaser road credits.—The Committee has retained the provision by which the Forest Service may designate \$50,000,000 for timber purchaser road credits. As recently documented by the Federal Budget Consulting Group and Price Waterhouse LLP, the purchaser road credit system is a very efficient system to accomplish needed work. The Committee has however provided bill language which limits the use of the purchaser road credits to small businesses which would be particularly hard-hit if the credits were abolished and they had to come up with the substantial initial capital needed to operate sales.

Trails.—The Committee recommends \$26,000,000 for trail construction, a decrease of \$1,508,000 from the budget request and an increase of \$4,000,000 above the 1997 funding level. Within this allocation, the Committee earmarks \$500,000 for construction on the Continental Divide trail and \$300,000 for the Harriman trail in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (ID). CCS funding should adhere to the budget justification.

LAND ACQUISITION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$40,575,000
Budget estimate, 1998	41,057,000
Recommended, 1998	45,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+4,425,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+3,943,000

The Committee recommends \$45,000,000 for land acquisition which is \$4,425,000 above the enacted level and \$3,943,000 above the budget request. This amount includes \$33,200,000 for line item projects, \$7,500,000 for acquisition management, \$1,800,000 for cash equalization, \$2,000,000 for emergencies and hardships and \$500,000 for wilderness protection.

The Committee agrees to the following distribution of funds:

Area and State	Committee recommendation
Appalachian National Scenic Trail	\$3,000,000
Arapaho NF (Wedge tract), CO	350,000
California Wilderness (NF inholdings), CA	1,500,000
Chattooga Watershed (including Fodderstacks), GA-NC-SC	1,000,000
Chequamegon-Nicolet NF (WI Wild Waterways), WI	2,000,000
Cleveland NF (Rutherford Ranch), CA	2,000,000
Daniel Boone NF, KY	1,000,000
Gallatin NF (Taylor Fork), MT	3,000,000
Hoosier NF, IN	500,000
Jefferson NF (Guest River Gorge), VA	300,000
Los Padres NF (Big Sur), CA	2,000,000
Mark Twain NF (MO Ozark Mountain Streams), MO	500,000
Michigan Lakes and Streams (Huron-Manistee NF, Consumers Power), MI	250,000
Mount Baker-Snoqualmie NF (Skagit Wild & Scenic River), WA	700,000
Nantahala NF (Thompson Tract), NC	1,200,000
New Mexico NFs (Santa Fe NF, Jemez NRA), NM	750,000
Pacific Northwest Streams (including Beaver Marsh & Sam's River), OR-WA	2,500,000
San Bernardino NF, CA	2,000,000
Sawtooth NF (Sawtooth NRA), ID	1,800,000
Sumter NF (Jocassee), SC	3,000,000
Uinta & Wasatch-Cache NF (Bonneville Shoreline Trail), UT	500,000
White Mountain NF (Lake Tarleton), NH	2,650,000
White River NF (Warren Lakes), CO	700,000
Cash equalization	1,800,000
Emergency acquisitions	2,000,000
Wilderness protection	500,000
Acquisition management	7,500,000
Total	45,000,000

The Committee has not provided funds for land acquisition for the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie. The Forest Service has not prepared a land adjustment plan to date which will identify and prioritize lands for purchase. The site, which was only established in 1996, received \$3,200,000 in fiscal year 1997. Included was \$1,600,000 for operations and \$1,600,000 to construct administrative buildings. This bill maintains the operating base and provides an additional \$1,600,000 for new public use facilities. The Committee has made this site a priority and will consider land acquisition dollars at the appropriate time.

ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR NATIONAL FORESTS, SPECIAL ACTS

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$1,069,000
Budget estimate, 1998	1,069,000
Recommended, 1998	1,069,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$1,069,000 for acquisition of lands for national forests, special acts, the same as the budget request and the same as in 1997. These funds are used pursuant to several special acts which authorize appropriations from the receipts of specified National Forests for the purchase of lands to minimize erosion and flood damage to critical watersheds needing soil stabilization and vegetative cover.

ACQUISITION OF LANDS TO COMPLETE LAND EXCHANGES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$210,000
Budget estimate, 1998	210,000
Recommended, 1998	210,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$210,000 for acquisition of lands to complete land exchanges under the Act of December 4, 1967 (16 U.S.C. 484a). Under the Act, deposits made by public school districts or public school authorities to provide for cash equalization of certain land exchanges can be appropriated to acquire similar lands suitable for National Forest System purposes in the same State as the National Forest lands conveyed in the exchanges.

RANGE BETTERMENT FUND

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$3,995,000
Budget estimate, 1998	3,811,000
Recommended, 1998	3,811,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	-184,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$3,811,000, the budget request, for the range betterment fund, to be derived from grazing receipts from the National Forests (Public Law 94-579, as amended) and to be used for range rehabilitation, protection, and improvements including seeding, reseeding, fence construction, weed control, water development, and fish and wildlife habitat enhancement in 16 western States.

GIFTS, DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS FOR FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$92,000
Budget estimate, 1998	92,000
Recommended, 1998	92,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$92,000, the budget estimate, for gifts, donations and bequests for forest and rangeland research. Authority for the program is contained in Public Law 95-307 (16 U.S.C. 1643, section 4(b)). Amounts appropriated and not needed for current operations may be invested in public debt securities. Both the principal and earnings from the receipts are available to the Forest Service.

MIDWIN NATIONAL TALLGRASS PRAIRIE RESTORATION FUND

Appropriation enacted, 1997 .....	.....
Budget estimate, 1998	\$100,000
Recommended, 1998	100,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+100,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$100,000, the budget estimate, for a new account, the Midwin National Tallgrass Prairie (NTP) res-

toration fund. Authority for the program is contained in sections 2915(d) and (e) of Public Law 104–106 and are made available for the purpose of restoring and administering the Midewin NTP in accordance with section 2915(f) of the Act.

COOPERATIVE WORK, FOREST SERVICE

Appropriation enacted, 1997	
Budget estimate, 1998	
Recommended, 1998	\$128,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+128,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+128,000,000

The Committee recommends \$128,000,000 for Cooperative Work, Forest Service to repay the fund for moneys advanced for previous emergency firefighting. This repayment should be merged with the Knutson-Vandenberg trust fund as authorized in Public Law 71–319, as amended. The Committee believes that the KV fund is vital for reforestation and habitat improvement projects and that planned projects should not be jeopardized by shortfalls that exist in the overall account.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY

(RESCISSION)

The Committee recommends a rescission of \$100,000,000 for clean coal technology programs. The Committee does not object to the use of up to \$15,000,000 in available funds for administration of the clean coal program in fiscal year 1998.

The Committee has not agreed to the proposed advance appropriation for a new clean coal technology program targeted toward the Chinese market. The Committee believes clean coal funding should be dedicated to fulfilling our existing commitments.

FOSSIL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The fossil energy programs of the Department of Energy make prudent investments in long-range research and development that help protect the environment through higher efficiency power generation, advanced production technologies and improved compliance and stewardship operations. These activities safeguard our domestic energy security. This country will continue to rely on fossil fuels for the majority of its energy requirements for the foreseeable future, and the activities funded through the fossil energy research and development account ensure that fossil energy technologies continue to improve with respect to emissions reduction and control and energy efficiency.

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$364,704,000
Budget estimate, 1998	346,408,000
Recommended, 1998	312,153,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	– 52,551,000
Budget estimate, 1998	– 34,255,000

The Committee recommends \$312,153,000 for fossil energy research and development, a decrease of \$34,255,000 below the budg-

et request. The decrease is largely due to the transfer and consolidation of all the advanced turbine system programs in the Energy Conservation account.

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Coal			
Advanced Clean Fuels Research			
Coal preparation.....	5,064	5,064	---
Direct liquefaction.....	5,816	5,816	---
Indirect liquefaction.....	4,223	4,223	---
Advanced research and environmental technology....	741	741	---
Subtotal, Advanced Clean Fuels Research.....	15,844	15,844	---
Advanced Clean/Efficient Power Systems			
Advanced pulverized coal-fired powerplant.....	5,462	15,462	+10,000
Indirect fired cycle.....	10,927	4,927	-6,000
High-efficiency integrated gasified combined cycle	22,342	22,342	---
High-efficiency pressurized fluidized bed.....	17,875	17,875	---
Advanced research and environmental technology....	9,734	12,734	+3,000
Subtotal, Advanced Clean/Efficient Power Systems.....	66,340	73,340	+7,000
Advanced research and technology development.....	19,729	17,579	-2,150
Transfer to Cooperative R&D.....	-1,864	---	+1,864
Subtotal, Coal.....	100,049	106,763	+6,714
Gas			
Natural Gas Research			
Exploration and production.....	14,895	13,932	-963
Delivery and storage.....	993	993	---
Advanced turbine systems.....	31,379	---	-31,379
Utilization.....	4,808	6,808	+2,000
Environmental research and regulatory analysis....	4,617	2,617	-2,000
Subtotal, Natural Gas Research.....	56,692	24,350	-32,342
Fuel Cells			
Advanced research.....	1,210	1,210	---
Molten carbonate systems.....	32,669	---	-32,669
Advanced concepts.....	12,412	---	-12,412
Fuel cell systems.....	---	36,000	+36,000
Subtotal, Fuel Cells.....	46,291	37,210	-9,081
Subtotal, Gas.....	102,983	61,560	-41,423
Oil Technology			
Exploration and production supporting research.....	33,785	31,385	-2,400
Recovery field demonstrations.....	6,053	6,053	---
Exploration and production environmental research...	6,411	6,561	+150
Processing research and downstream operations.....	5,920	5,420	-500
Subtotal, Oil Technology.....	52,169	49,419	-2,750
Cooperative R&D.....	5,836	5,040	-796
Fossil energy environmental restoration.....	12,935	12,935	---
Fuels conversion, natural gas, and electricity.....	2,173	2,173	---
Headquarters program direction.....	14,659	14,659	---
Energy Technology Center program direction.....	48,107	52,107	+4,000
General plant projects.....	2,532	2,532	---
Mining			
Materials partnerships.....	4,965	4,965	---
Total, Fossil Energy Research and Development...	346,408	312,153	-34,255

Coal.—The Committee recommends \$106,763,000 for coal research, an increase of \$6,714,000 above the budget request. Changes to the budget request are shown in the following table:

Advanced pulverized coal-fired powerplant—downselect to one contract	\$10,000,000
Indirect fired cycle	(6,000,000)
Advanced research and environmental technology—monitoring PM2.5 speciation	3,000,000
Advanced research and technology development:	
Coal technology	(200,000)
University coal research	(1,000,000)
Undergraduate internship program (no new starts)	(50,000)
Technical and economic analysis	(200,000)
International program support	(500,000)
HBCUs	(200,000)
Subtotal, Advanced research and technology development ..	(2,150,000)

The Committee believes that the balance of the funds remaining in the indirect fired cycle activity should be focused on heat engine research. The Committee encourages the Department to use the capabilities of the University of Tennessee Space Institute for developing plans for potential future tests, in the indirect fired cycle research area, relating to the fluidized bed coal pyrolyzer/char combustor concept.

The Committee has included \$3,000,000 for data monitoring and development of cost effective control technologies as a basis for any new PM 2.5 air quality regulations proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency. The Department should work very closely with the EPA to ensure that these regulations are based on sound science.

The Committee has not agreed to the transfer of \$1,864,000 from coal research to the cooperative research and development account. Coal research projects should be awarded on a competitive basis.

The Administration is currently negotiating an agreement with 130 nations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which is likely to be signed in Kyoto later this year. If ratified, this agreement may impose binding limits on CO₂ emissions that would come into force in 2010 to 2020. The Energy Information Administration presently predicts that fossil fuels will be supplying roughly 88% of domestic energy consumption in the year 2015. Thus, if the United States is to agree to CO₂ targets, we must further look at how to limit CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels. Since 1970, with the help of Federally-funded research and development, the energy industry has sharply reduced fossil fuel emissions of SO₂, NO_x, and particulate matter. Cost-shared research also has the potential to provide cost-effective CO₂ emissions reductions. The Committee encourages the Department to evaluate quantitatively the potential CO₂ emissions savings from various options, including the coupling of high-efficiency fossil energy systems with CO₂ removal and sequestration and demand-side management technologies. The results should be incorporated in the fiscal year 1999 budget request along with appropriate funding proposals.

Oil Technology.—The Committee recommends \$49,419,000 for oil technology research, a decrease of \$2,750,000 below the budget re-

quest and an increase of \$3,482,000 above the 1997 level. Changes to the budget request are shown in the following table.

Exploration and production support research:	
Analysis and planning	(\$500,000)
Regulatory impact analysis	(350,000)
Recovery efficiency processes	(550,000)
Technology transfer (excluding PTTC)	(200,000)
Exploration and drilling	(800,000)
Subtotal, Exploration and production support research	(2,400,000)
Exploration and production environmental research:	
Program planning and analysis	(125,000)
Risk assessment/groundwater protection data base	450,000
Advanced oil recovery work with States	(175,000)
Subtotal, Exploration and production environment re- search	150,000
Processing research (downstream operations)	
Environmental compliance	(200,000)
Upgrading research	(300,000)
Subtotal, Processing research (downstream operations)	(500,000)

The Committee agrees that the reduction to the technology transfer activity should not be taken from funding for the Petroleum Technology Transfer Council.

The Committee has received many endorsements of the oil technology program from industry over the past year and the increases above the 1997 level recommended by the Committee reflect that program support.

Natural Gas.—The Committee recommends \$61,560,000 for natural gas and fuel cell research, a decrease of \$41,423,000 below the budget request. Changes to the budget request are shown in the following table:

Exploration and production—coal mine methane (no new starts)	(\$963,000)
Advanced turbine systems—transfer and consolidate turbine programs in energy conservation	(31,379,000)
Utilization—gas to liquids, ceramic membrane technology	2,000,000
Environmental research and regulatory analysis:	
Technology development	(1,800,000)
Outreach and technology transfer	(200,000)
Subtotal, Environmental research and regulatory analysis	(2,000,000)
Molten carbonate fuel cells	(32,669,000)
Advanced concepts/solid oxide fuel cell	(12,412,000)
Fuel cell systems—consolidate program and downselect to two contracts	36,000,000

The Committee has consolidated the advanced turbine systems programs under the Energy Conservation account. The Committee expects Fossil Energy to continue to administer its portions of the ATS program and \$45 million is included in the Energy Conservation account for the fossil energy ATS program. The DOE Controller should ensure that those funds are transferred to Fossil Energy through the Department's financial plan.

The Committee recommends consolidating the fuel cell programs into a single subactivity and downselecting from 3 to 2 contracts as soon as possible to minimize project costs.

The Committee is very concerned about a recent request for proposals issued by Fossil Energy to initiate new fuel cell applications. The Committee believes the agency should not be initiating any

new programs in this area without express approval through the budget process and strongly advises Fossil Energy to cancel this RFP.

Cooperative Research and Development.—The Committee recommends \$5,040,000 for cooperative research and development, a decrease of \$796,000 below the budget request. The Committee expects these funds to be distributed under the same procedure used in fiscal year 1997. The Committee has not agreed to the transfer of \$1,864,000 from coal research to cooperative R&D.

Environmental Restoration.—The Committee recommends \$12,935,000, the budget request, for environmental restoration.

Fuels Program.—The Committee recommends \$2,173,000, the budget request, for the fuels conversion, natural gas and electricity program.

Headquarters Program Direction.—The Committee recommends \$14,659,000, the budget request, for headquarters program direction.

Energy Technology Center Program Direction.—The Committee recommends \$52,107,000 for energy technology center program direction, an increase of \$4,000,000 above the budget request and \$2,207,000 below the 1997 level. The Committee expects Fossil Energy to ensure that there is an equitable staffing alignment between the Pittsburgh and Morgantown locations of the Federal Energy Technology Center.

General Plant Projects.—The Committee recommends \$2,532,000, the budget request, for general plant projects.

Mining.—The Committee recommends \$4,965,000, the budget request, for the mining/materials partnership program.

ALTERNATIVE FUELS PRODUCTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriation enacted, 1997	— \$4,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	— 1,500,000
Recommended, 1998	— 1,500,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+2,500,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends the deposit of investment income earned as of October 1, 1997 on principal amounts in a trust fund established as part of the sale of the Great Plains Gasification Plant in Beulah, ND, into this account and immediate transfer of the funds to the General Fund of the Treasury. The amount available as of October 1, 1997, is estimated to be \$1,500,000.

NAVAL PETROLEUM AND OIL SHALE RESERVES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$143,786,000
Budget estimate, 1998	117,000,000
Recommended, 1998	115,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	— 28,786,000
Budget estimate, 1998	— 2,000,000

Naval petroleum and oil shale reserves include petroleum reserves Nos. 1 and 2 located at Elks Hills, California, petroleum reserve No. 3 northeast of Casper, Wyoming, Naval Oil Shale Re-

serves Nos. 1 and 3 in Colorado, and Naval Oil Shale Reserve No. 2 in Utah. The Government's share of oil, natural gas, and liquid product production available for sale from the Naval Petroleum Reserves is expected to average 66,000 oil equivalent barrels per day in fiscal year 1998. Total receipts in fiscal years 1997 and 1998 are estimated to be about \$500 million and \$280 million respectively.

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Oil Reserves			
Naval petroleum reserves Nos. 1 & 2	99,500	97,500	-2,000
Naval petroleum reserve No. 3.....	8,500	8,500	---
Program direction (headquarters).....	7,800	7,800	---
Naval oil shale reserves.....	1,200	1,200	---
Subtotal, Oil Reserves.....	117,000	115,000	-2,000
Total, Naval Petroleum and Oil Shale Reserves...	117,000	115,000	-2,000

The Committee recommends \$115,000,000 for the Naval petroleum and oil shale reserves, a decrease of \$2,000,000 below the budget request. The decrease recommended by the Committee is for operations at the Elk Hills reserve. The Committee expects that the sale of the Elk Hills reserve will be consummated only when the Department has determined that it is making the best possible transaction for the American taxpayer.

The Committee expects to be kept fully informed of any plans to dispose of or transfer the Naval oil shale reserves to the Department of the Interior or any other entity.

Bill Language.—Since sufficient funds and outlay authority are not being recommended in the SPR petroleum account to purchase oil, the Committee recommends waiving the statutory requirement for selling NPR-1 oil at prices equivalent to Strategic Petroleum Reserve purchase prices. Bill language also is included to permit the use of excess receipts for operation of Elk Hills in the event that the sale of that reserve is delayed.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

The energy conservation program of the Department of Energy funds cooperative research and development projects aimed at sustaining economic growth through more efficient energy use. Activities financed through this program focus on markedly improving existing technologies as well as developing new technologies which ultimately will displace some of our reliance on traditional fossil fuels.

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$569,762,000
Budget estimate, 1998	707,700,000
Recommended, 1998	636,766,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+67,004,000
Budget estimate, 1998	- 70,934,000

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Building Technology			
State and community sector			
Building systems design.....	32,841	21,651	-11,190
Building equipment and materials.....	37,151	24,921	-12,230
Codes and standards.....	20,573	13,673	-6,900
Subtotal, State and community sector.....	90,565	60,245	-30,320
State and local partnerships			
Weatherization assistance program.....	154,100	120,845	-33,255
State energy program.....	37,000	29,000	-8,000
Municipal energy management.....	1,600	1,600	---
Subtotal, State and local partnerships.....	192,700	151,445	-41,255
Management and planning.....	19,150	13,450	-5,700
Subtotal, Building Technology.....	302,415	225,140	-77,275
Federal Energy Management Program			
Program activities.....	29,000	18,000	-11,000
Program direction.....	2,100	1,800	-300
Subtotal, Federal Energy Management Program.....	31,100	19,800	-11,300
Industry Sector			
Industries of the future (specific).....	55,660	51,781	-3,879
Industries of the future (crosscutting).....	39,120	94,120	+55,000
Technology access.....	37,079	25,699	-11,380
Management.....	7,700	7,400	-300
Subtotal, Industry Sector.....	139,559	179,000	+39,441
Transportation			
Technology deployment.....	17,000	10,400	-6,600
Advanced automotive technology.....	129,046	104,798	-24,250
Advanced heavy vehicle technologies.....	18,000	28,400	+10,400
Transportation materials technologies.....	30,500	33,000	+2,500
Implementation and program management.....	8,700	7,600	-1,100
Subtotal, Transportation.....	203,246	184,196	-19,050
Policy and management.....	31,380	28,630	-2,750
Subtotal, Energy Conservation.....	707,700	636,766	-70,934
Offsetting Reductions			
Use of nonappropriated escrow funds.....	(-20,000)	(-20,000)	---
Total, Energy Conservation.....	707,700	636,766	-70,934

The Committee recommends \$636,766,000 for energy conservation, a decrease of \$70,934,000 below the budget request and an increase of \$67,004,000 above the 1997 level. Of this amount, an indefinite portion is to be derived from the excess amount for fiscal year 1997, under the provisions of the Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987, Public Law 99-509. This amount, which is applied to State and local conservation programs and which originates from oil overcharge funds, is estimated to be \$20,000,000.

Again this year the Department has failed to set priorities among the various program increases requested for Energy Conservation. The Department, with the exception of the industry sector, has been totally unresponsive to the Committee's questions for the record with respect to priorities.

The Committee has strongly supported the consolidation of the industry programs through the "Industries of the Future" initiative. The Committee is concerned that the other programs under the energy conservation account lack a similar focus. This is especially true in the buildings sector programs but also applies to the transportation programs which seem to be divided into two areas; the Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicles and everything else. There also needs to be a more consolidated approach to the technology access activities within the industry programs. The Committee expects the agency to prepare a strategic plan for focusing these programs along similar lines to the Industries of the Future program and to submit that plan to the Committee for review and approval by December 15, 1997. The Committee will consider any future budget increases based on such an approved strategic plan. The plan should concentrate on eliminating the proliferation of "mini-bureaucracies" in hundreds of different programs and emphasize "one-stop shopping" for the many different users of these programs.

Buildings.—The Committee recommends \$225,140,000 for building technology, a decrease of \$77,275,000 below the budget request and \$5,903,000 below the 1997 level. Within the amount recommended by the Committee \$120,845,000 is for low income weatherization assistance grants and \$29,000,000 is for State energy program grants. These are the same grant levels as in 1997. The Committee notes that there also is a 15 percent set-aside provision for weatherization in the low income home energy assistance program funded by the Department of Health and Human Services. Changes to the budget request are shown in the following table:

Budget Activity/Subactivity/project	Amount
Building System Design:	
Building America	(\$2,100,000)
Advanced housing technology (no new starts)	(400,000)
Industrialized housing	(300,000)
Residential energy efficiency	(1,000,000)
Home energy rating system (terminate program)	(1,535,000)
Affordable homes for low-income housing	(1,000,000)
Rebuild America	(580,000)
Commercial/multifamily R&D	(1,150,000)
Best practices	(3,125,000)
Subtotal, Building System Design	(11,190,000)

Building Equipment and Materials:

Budget Activity/Subactivity/project	Amount
Hi-cool heat pump	(1,200,000)
Fuel cell building micro-cogeneration	(700,000)
Lighting and appliances R&D	(1,000,000)
Lighting applications	(500,000)
Lighting collaboratives	(580,000)
Energy star partnerships (terminate program)	(3,000,000)
Volume purchases	(1,100,000)
Emerging technology introduction	(1,100,000)
Materials and structures	(400,000)
Highly reflective surfaces	(600,000)
Electrochromic research/windows	(1,100,000)
Superwindow collaborative	(250,000)
Advanced glazing	(700,000)
Subtotal, Building Equipment and Materials	(12,230,000)
Codes and standards	(6,900,000)
Weatherization assistance program	(33,255,000)
State energy program	(8,000,000)
Management and planning:	
Technology and sector data	(200,000)
Analytical studies and planning	(500,000)
Support to EIA (transfer to EIA)	(5,000,000)

The Committee has not agreed to increase the low income housing cooperative with the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Committee continues to believe that this program should be financed by HUD with the DOE funding limited to technical assistance.

The Committee has eliminated funding for the Energy Star partnerships program. The Committee believes that this program blatantly crosses the line into marketing and commercialization that should be left to the private sector. It is inappropriate for the DOE to be going into stores such as Circuit City and Montgomery Ward to market energy efficiency. The Committee believes that the agency needs to make information available without choosing individual businesses with which to partner; thereby establishing a Federal presence in selected markets.

The Committee has also eliminated funding for the home energy rating system project. The Committee believes that, if this project is to be renewed in future budget years, it should not continue to focus on the same initial pilot program States but rather replace those States with new participants so that, eventually, all States are given an opportunity to participate in the program without increasing total annual funding for the program.

Within the funds provided for lighting research and development, the Committee expects the Department to support lighting research cost-shared with industry, including cooperative work on compact fluorescent lighting cost reduction.

Federal Energy Management Program.—The Committee recommends \$19,800,000 for the Federal energy management program which is equal to the 1997 level and a decrease of \$11,300,000 below the budget request. Changes to the budget request are shown in the following table:

Budget Activity/Subactivity/project	Amount
Federal energy management program:	
Program activities	(\$11,000,000)

Budget Activity/Subactivity/project	Amount
Program direction	(300,000)
Subtotal, Federal energy management program	(11,300,000)

The Committee continues to believe that the Department needs to work with the Office of Management and Budget to ensure that energy efficiency improvements are funded in individual agency budgets.

Bill language is included under Administrative Provisions, Department of Energy, permitting the Department to receive reimbursements from other Federal agencies—such funds for, or resulting from, energy saving performance contracts and other private financing mechanisms—and to use those funds to pursue other Federal agency energy savings contracts through the Federal energy management program.

Industry.—The Committee recommends \$179,000,000 for industry sector programs, an increase of \$39,441,000 above the budget request and \$61,434,000 above the 1997 level. The increase for these programs is largely due to the transfer from Fossil Energy and the consolidation in this account of all the advanced turbine systems activities. Changes to the budget request are shown in the following table:

Budget Activity/Subactivity/project	Amount
Industries of the future (specific):	
Forest & paper products	(\$600,000)
Steel	(333,000)
Aluminum	(1,074,000)
Metal casting	(990,000)
Glass	(882,000)
Subtotal, Industries of the future (specific)	(3,879,000)
Turbine programs:	
Industrial turbines (cogeneration):	
Catalytic combustion	3,000,000
Major contracts	7,000,000
Utility turbine program (transfer from Fossil Energy)	45,000,000
Subtotal, Turbine programs	55,000,000
Technology access:	
Industrial assessment centers	(500,000)
Motor challenge	(1,500,000)
NICE ³	(6,000,000)
Climate wise (eliminate program)	(3,780,000)
Inventions and innovations	400,000
Subtotal, Technology access	(11,380,000)
Management and planning; evaluation and planning	(300,000)

The Committee agrees that:

1. Funding for the Climate-Wise program should be left to the Environmental Protection Agency;
2. Funding for the turbine programs should be budgeted under a single account to show the true scope of the entire program; however, funding for the turbine programs formerly funded in the fossil energy account should be transferred via the Department's finan-

cial plan to Fossil Energy to permit that agency to continue to administer its portions of the overall program; and

3. Increases for the turbine program should provide for the conclusion of the program in the year 2000.

Transportation.—The Committee recommends \$184,196,000 for transportation programs, a decrease of \$19,050,000 below the budget request and an increase of \$8,993,000 above the 1997 level. Changes to the budget request are shown in the following table:

Budget Activity/Subactivity/project	Amount
Technology deployment	
Clean Cities	(\$1,300,000)
Infrastructure, systems and safety	(3,150,000)
EPACT replacement fuels	(300,000)
Vehicle field test/evaluation	(1,200,000)
Technical information development	(650,000)
Subtotal, Technology deployment	(6,600,000)
Advanced automotive technologies	
Systems optimization	(1,000,000)
On-board storage for natural gas vehicles	1,200,000
Student vehicle competitions	(150,000)
Electric vehicle R&D	(1,400,000)
Vehicle systems R&D/hybrid propulsion	(6,000,000)
Highpower energy storage	(7,000,000)
Fuel cell R&D	(10,000,000)
Advanced combustion engine R&D	100,000
Subtotal, Advanced automotive technologies	(24,250,000)
Advanced heavy vehicle technologies	
High efficiency engine R&D/cooperative program w/ diesel manufacturers	6,600,000
Heavy vehicle alternative fuels R&D:	
Heavy duty engine R&D for natural gas vehicles	3,500,000
Continue ongoing infrastructure systems and safety R&D for natural gas vehicles	300,000
Subtotal, Advanced heavy vehicle technologies	10,400,000
Transportation materials technologies; propulsion materials/ceramics	2,500,000
Implementation and program management:	
Evaluation, planning and analysis	(600,000)
Program direction	(500,000)
Subtotal, Implementation and program management	(1,100,000)

The Committee expects that the reduction to the budget request for systems optimization will not be taken from cooperative projects with the Gas Research Institute or from natural gas vehicles research. The agency should also work closely with industry to establish priorities for fueling infrastructure research for natural gas research.

Policy and Management.—The Committee recommends \$28,630,000 for policy and management, a decrease of \$2,750,000 below the budget request and an increase of \$2,480,000 above the 1997 level. Changes to the budget request are shown in the following table:

Budget Activity/Subactivity/project	Amount
Headquarters contractual services	(500,000)
Golden field office contractual services	(500,000)

Budget Activity/Subactivity/project	Amount
International market development	(300,000)
Information and communications	(1,450,000)

General.—The Committee expects that reductions to the Argonne National Laboratory funding in fiscal year 1998 will not be disproportionate to the reductions at other National laboratories.

ECONOMIC REGULATION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$2,725,000
Budget estimate, 1998	2,725,000
Recommended, 1998	2,725,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The economic regulation account funds the independent Office of Hearings and Appeals which is responsible for all of the Department's adjudication processes except those that are the responsibility of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The amount funded by this Committee is for those activities specific to this bill; mainly those related to petroleum overcharge cases. All other activities are funded on a reimbursable basis from the other elements of the Department of Energy. Prior to fiscal year 1997, this account also funded the Economic Regulatory Administration.

The Committee recommends \$2,725,000 for economic regulation, which is equal to the budget request and to the 1997 level.

STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$209,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	209,000,000
Recommended, 1998	209,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$209,000,000 for construction and operation of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, which is to be repaid from the SPR fund established to receive proceeds from the sale of SPR oil.

Bill language has been recommended to provide for the sale of a portion of the oil from the SPR and for the use of \$209,000,000 in proceeds from the sale of that oil for operational expenses of the SPR. The Committee regrets that a further sale of oil is required to pay for operations of the SPR in fiscal year 1998. The alternative of funding SPR operations through direct appropriations was not feasible within the 602(b) allocation. The Committee expects this to be the final year in which oil will be sold to pay for SPR operations.

SPR PETROLEUM ACCOUNT

The Committee does not recommend additional appropriations for the purchase of petroleum for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

The Committee recommends an outlay limitation of \$5,000,000 for this account. The limitation caps outlays from all sources in the account and is the same as that included in previous years.

The Committee recommends retaining bill language, included for the past nine fiscal years, that allows continued normal operations

at Naval Petroleum Reserve Numbered 1 (Elk Hills) even though the fill rate of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve is less than 75,000 barrels a day.

ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$66,120,000
Budget estimate, 1998	62,800,000
Recommended, 1998	66,800,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+680,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+4,000,000

The Energy Information Administration is a quasi-independent agency within the Department of Energy established to provide timely, objective, and accurate energy related information to the Congress, executive branch, State governments, industry, and the public. The information and analysis prepared by the EIA is widely disseminated and the agency is recognized as an unbiased source of energy information by government organizations, industry, professional statistical organizations and the public.

The Committee recommends \$66,800,000 for the Energy Information Administration, an increase of \$4,000,000 above the budget request. Previously the Committee provided \$5,000,000 in the energy conservation account to reimburse EIA for work done for that organization. The Committee believes that savings can be achieved by directly appropriating these funds to EIA. Accordingly the Energy Conservation buildings program has been reduced by \$5,000,000, which more than offsets the \$4,000,000 increase to EIA's budget. Program reductions below the fiscal year 1997 level should be achieved primarily through reducing contract support.

The Committee notes that the budget and staffing for EIA has declined dramatically over the past few years. In fiscal year 1994 the budget was \$86,553,000. The 1998 recommended level represents a 23 percent reduction over four years. EIA underwent similar reductions in the early 1980s. The agency has done an admirable job of restructuring and downsizing its program and staff to meet the budget balancing goals of the past few Administrations without jeopardizing the quality of its statistical products. The Committee believes that further staffing reductions may negatively affect the quality of EIA's products and encourages the Department to review its strategic alignment initiative with respect to EIA staffing and to revise upward EIA's target staffing levels, including the fiscal year 1998 target. In order to meet the staffing target for fiscal year 1998, the Committee expects the EIA to use early retirement, "buy-out" authority and attrition to avoid or minimize any reduction in force. The Department should report to the Committee by December 15, 1997 on its plan for revising EIA's staffing targets and EIA's plan for reaching its staffing target in fiscal year 1998.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Bill language is included under Administrative Provisions, Department of Energy, permitting the Department to receive reimbursements from other Federal agencies and to use those funds to pursue other Federal agency energy savings contracts through the Federal energy management program.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES

The provision of Federal health services to Indians is based on a special relationship between Indian tribes and the U.S. Government first set forth in the 1830's by the U.S. Supreme Court under Chief Justice John Marshall. This relationship has been reconfirmed by numerous treaties, statutes, constitutional provisions, and international law. Principal among these is the Snyder Act of 1921 which provides the basic authority for most Indian health services provided by the Federal Government to American Indians and Alaska Natives. The Indian Health Service (IHS) provides direct health care services in 37 hospitals, 61 health centers, 4 school health centers, and 48 health stations. Tribes and tribal groups, through contracts with the IHS, operate 12 hospitals, 134 health centers, 4 school health centers, 60 health stations, and 168 Alaska village clinics. The IHS, tribes and tribal groups also operate 7 regional youth substance abuse treatment centers and more than 2,000 units of staff quarters.

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$1,806,269,000
Budget estimate, 1998	1,835,465,000
Recommended, 1998	1,829,008,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+22,739,000
Budget estimate, 1998	-6,457,000

The Committee recommends \$1,829,008,000 for Indian health services, an increase of \$22,739,000 from the fiscal year 1997 level and a decrease of \$6,457,000 from the budget request.

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Clinical Services			
IHS and tribal health delivery			
Hospital and health clinic programs.....	898,022	898,765	+743
Dental health program.....	64,737	65,037	+300
Mental health program.....	39,034	39,034	---
Alcohol and substance abuse program.....	91,677	91,677	---
Contract care.....	374,348	371,348	-3,000
Subtotal, Clinical Services.....	1,467,818	1,465,861	-1,957
Preventive Health			
Public health nursing.....	27,994	27,994	---
Health education.....	8,855	8,855	---
Community health representatives program.....	44,311	44,311	---
Immunization (Alaska).....	1,328	1,328	---
Subtotal, Preventive Health.....	82,488	82,488	---
Urban health projects.....	25,777	25,277	-500
Indian health professions.....	28,293	28,293	---
Tribal management.....	2,348	2,348	---
Direct operations.....	46,924	46,924	---
Self-governance.....	9,097	9,097	---
Contract support costs.....	172,720	168,720	-4,000
Medicare/Medicaid Reimbursements			
Hospital and clinic accreditation (Est. collecting).....	(247,397)	(247,397)	---
Total, Indian Health Services.....	1,835,465	1,829,008	-6,457

Hospitals and Health Clinics.—The Committee recommends \$898,765,000 for hospitals and clinics, including increases of \$9,371,000 for fixed costs and \$6,370,000 for staffing new facilities and a decrease of \$7,800,000 which is a transfer to the facilities account to consolidate all utility costs.

Dental Health.—The Committee recommends \$65,037,000 for the dental program, including increases of \$896,000 for fixed costs, \$1,058,000 for staffing new facilities, and \$300,000 for a periodontal program.

The Committee has provided \$300,000 to establish three pilot sites for the treatment of diabetes and periodontal disease. IHS should establish these pilot sites in areas with the highest incidence of diabetes. This new pilot program will allow IHS to determine the best ways to implement the new protocol developed as a result of the joint IHS and National Institution of Dental Research study.

Mental Health.—The Committee recommends \$39,034,000 for mental health, including increases of \$459,000 for fixed costs and \$234,000 for staffing new facilities.

Alcohol and Substance Abuse.—The Committee recommends \$91,677,000 for alcohol and substance abuse prevention and treatment, including increases of \$195,000 for fixed costs.

The Committee recommends that the fetal alcohol syndrome project at the University of Washington be funded at the fiscal year 1997 level. This project is providing important insight into early identification of fetal alcohol syndrome. Early identification and intervention by health care professionals result in significantly improved lives for those afflicted by fetal alcohol syndrome.

Contract Health Services.—The Committee recommends \$371,348,000 for contract health services which includes increases

of \$23,000 for fixed costs and a program increase of \$3,000,000 with a portion of this increase for new tribes.

The Committee does not object to continuing the California contract health demonstration project as long as the tribes in California choose to participate and elect to provide funding for this program.

The Committee directs the IHS to provide an equitable allocation of IHS resources to the Pascua Yaqui tribe of Arizona from within the increase in Contract Health Services. The Committee estimates the total funding needed for the Pascua Yaqui tribe in fiscal year 1998 to be \$8.4 million.

Public Health Nursing.—The Committee recommends \$27,994,000 for public health nursing, including increases of \$382,000 for fixed costs and \$936,000 for staffing new facilities.

Health Education.—The Committee recommends \$8,855,000 for health education, including increases of \$66,000 for fixed costs and \$157,000 for staffing new facilities.

Community Health Representatives.—The Committee recommends \$44,311,000 for community health representatives, including an increase of \$338,000 for staffing new facilities.

Alaska Immunization.—The Committee recommends \$1,328,000 for Alaska immunization, the same as the budget request.

Urban Health.—The Committee recommends \$25,277,000 for urban health including an increase of \$9,000 for fixed costs and a program increase of \$500,000.

Indian Health Professions.—The Committee recommends \$28,293,000 for Indian health professions, including an increase of \$23,000 for fixed costs.

Tribal Management.—The Committee recommends \$2,348,000 for tribal management, the same as the budget request.

Direct Operations.—The Committee recommends \$46,924,000 for direct operations, including an increase of \$865,000 for fixed costs and a decrease of \$2,650,000 in downsizing savings.

Self-Governance.—The Committee recommends \$9,097,000 for self governance, including an increase of \$7,000 for fixed costs.

Contract Support Costs.—The Committee recommends \$168,720,000 for contract support costs. The Committee has provided \$7,500,000 for the Indian Self Determination Fund for new and expanded contracts and \$500,000 which is mostly a transfer from the facilities account.

General.—The Committee is aware that there are a number of tribes whose funding is well below their level of need, including the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewas. The Committee urges the Indian Health Service to work within its allocation to begin to rectify funding inequities.

INDIAN HEALTH FACILITIES

The need for new Indian health care facilities has not been fully quantified but it is safe to say that many billions of dollars would be required to renovate existing facilities and construct all the needed new hospitals and clinics. Safe and sanitary water and sewer systems for existing homes and solid waste disposal needs currently are estimated to amount to over \$600 million for those projects that are considered to be economically feasible.

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$247,731,000
Budget estimate, 1998	286,535,000
Recommended, 1998	257,310,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+9,579,000
Budget estimate, 1998	-29,225,000

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Maintenance and improvement.....	39,334	39,334	---
Construction facilities.....	38,900	14,900	-24,000
Sanitation facilities.....	90,042	89,042	-1,000
Facilities and environmental health support.....	104,772	101,029	-3,743
Equipment.....	13,005	13,005	---
Contract support costs.....	482	---	-482
Total, Indian Health Facilities.....	286,535	257,310	-29,225

The Committee recommends \$257,310,000 for Indian health facilities, an increase of \$9,579,000 from the fiscal year 1997 level and a decrease of \$29,225,000 from the budget request.

Maintenance and Improvement.—The Committee recommends \$39,334,000 for M&I, the same as the budget request.

Sanitation Facilities.—The Committee recommends \$89,042,000 for sanitation facilities, including an increase of \$153,000 for fixed costs and a program increase of \$1,000,000.

The Committee has not specified the amount of sanitation funds to be used for new and renovated homes or for addressing the backlog of needs for existing homes. Funds for sanitation facilities for new and renovated housing should be used to serve housing provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs Housing Improvement Program, new homes, and homes renovated to like-new condition. On-site sanitation facilities may also be provided for homes occupied by the disabled or sick who have physician referrals indicating an immediate medical need for adequate sanitation facilities at home. IHS project funds shall not be used to provide sanitation facilities for new homes funded by the housing programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Construction Facilities.—The Committee recommends \$14,900,000 for facilities construction, including \$1,000,000 for modular dental units and \$13,900,000 to begin construction of the Hopi Health Center.

The Committee has recommended \$1,000,000 for modular dental units. As in past years, the Committee directs IHS to incorporate modular dental units in its base for future budget requests. In addition, IHS should provide a report to the Committee by March 1, 1998, detailing how many dental units have been purchased since fiscal year 1994 and how many units still need to be purchased to replace outdated units or to service remote areas.

Facilities and Environmental Health Support.—The Committee recommends \$101,029,000 for facilities and environmental health support, including increases of \$1,301,000 for fixed costs, \$907,000

for staffing new facilities, and a transfer of \$7,800,000 from the services account to consolidate utility costs.

Equipment.—The Committee recommends \$13,005,000 for equipment which includes a decrease of \$1,500,000 due to administrative savings.

Contract Support Costs.—The Committee has transferred \$482,000 to the services account to consolidate all contract support costs.

The Committee again recommends that funds provided for the facilities program be distributed in accordance with a methodology that addresses the fluctuating annual workload and maintains parity among IHS areas and the tribes as the workload shifts.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

INDIAN EDUCATION

The Committee has transferred jurisdiction for the Office of Indian Education from the Interior and Related Agencies Subcommittee to the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education.

OTHER RELATED AGENCIES

OFFICE OF NAVAJO AND HOPI INDIAN RELOCATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$19,345,000
Budget estimate, 1998	19,345,000
Recommended, 1998	18,345,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	– 1,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	– 1,000,000

The dispute between the Hopi and Navajo tribes is centuries-old. The Hopi were the original occupants of the land with their origin tracing back to the Anasazi race whose presence is recorded back to 1150 A.D. Later in the 16th century the Navajo tribe began settling in this area. The continuous occupation of this land by the Navajo led to the isolation of the Hopi Reservation as an island within the area occupied by the Navajo. In 1882, President Arthur issued an Executive Order which granted the Hopi a 2.5 million acre reservation to be occupied by the Hopi and such other Indians as the Secretary of the Interior saw fit to resettle there. Intertribal problems arose between the larger Navajo tribe and the smaller Hopi tribe revolving around the question of the ownership of the land as well as cultural differences between the two tribes. Efforts to resolve these conflicts were not successful and led Congress to pass legislation in 1958 which authorized a lawsuit to determine ownership of the land. When attempts at mediation of the dispute as specified in an Act passed in 1974 failed, the district court in Arizona partitioned the Joint Use Area equally between the Navajo and Hopi tribes under a decree that has required the relocation of members of both tribes. Most of those to be relocated are Navajo living on the Hopi Partitioned Land.

At this time approximately 634 households remain to be relocated, of which 84 are full-time residents on the Hopi Partitioned Land. A total of 2,768 Navajo families have been relocated from the Hopi Partitioned Land.

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$18,345,000 for salaries and expenses of the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation, which is a decrease of \$1,000,000 from both the 1997 level and the budget estimate.

The Committee expects the Office to stop further development on the New Lands beyond that required to meet expressed interest by relocatees in relocating to that area.

The Committee continues to be concerned by the slow pace of relocation and the extraordinarily large number of appeals which are adding to the total number of families eligible for relocation. The Office should continue to work with the legislative committees of jurisdiction to provide for the orderly termination of the relocation program over the next few years and the transfer of the New Lands to the Navajo Nation.

INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT

PAYMENT TO THE INSTITUTE

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$5,500,000
Budget estimate, 1998	5,500,000
Recommended, 1998	3,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	-2,500,000
Budget estimate, 1998	-2,500,000

The Committee recommends \$3,000,000 for the Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development, with the understanding that this will be the last year Federal funding will be provided.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The Smithsonian Institution is unique in the Federal establishment. Established by the Congress in 1846 to carry out the trust included in James Smithson's will, it has been engaged for 150 years in the "increase and diffusion of knowledge among men" in accordance with the donor's instructions. For some years, it used only the funds made available by the trust. Then, before the turn of the century, it began to receive Federal appropriations to conduct some of its activities. With the expenditure of both private and Federal funds over the years, it has grown into one of the world's great scientific, cultural, and intellectual organizations. It operates magnificent museums, outstanding art galleries, and important research centers. Its collections are among the best in the world. Its traveling exhibits bring beauty and information throughout the country.

It attracted approximately 24,600,000 visitors in 1996 to its museums, galleries, and zoological park. Additional millions also view Smithsonian traveling exhibitions, which appear across the United States and abroad, and the annual Folklife Festival. As custodian of the National Collections, the Smithsonian is responsible for more

than 140 million art objects, natural history specimens, and artifacts. These collections are displayed for the enjoyment and education of visitors and are available for research by the staff of the Institution and by hundreds of visiting students, scientists, and historians each year. Other significant study efforts draw their data and results directly from terrestrial, marine, and astrophysical observations at various Smithsonian installations.

The Smithsonian complex presently consists of 15 exhibition buildings in Washington, DC and New York City in the fields of science, history, technology and art; a zoological park in Washington, DC and an animal conservation and research center at Front Royal, Virginia; the Anacostia Museum, which performs research and exhibit activities in the District of Columbia; a preservation, storage and air and spacecraft display facility in Suitland, Maryland; two natural preserves in Panama and on the Chesapeake Bay; an oceanographic research facility in Fort Pierce, Florida; astrophysical stations in Cambridge, Massachusetts and Mt. Hopkins, Arizona and elsewhere; and supporting administrative, laboratory, and storage areas.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$318,492,000
Budget estimate, 1998	334,557,000
Recommended, 1998	334,557,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+16,065,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Museum and research institutes.....	171,710	171,710	---
Program support and outreach.....	36,099	36,099	---
Administration.....	32,893	32,893	---
Facilities services.....	93,855	93,855	---
Total, Salaries and Expenses.....	334,557	334,557	---

The Committee recommends \$334,557,000, an increase of \$16,065,000 above the enacted level and the same as the fiscal year 1998 budget request. This amount provides \$10,353,000 for uncontrollable expenses, \$835,000 for nonrecurring costs, and \$6,547,000 for priority program requirements. Included in this amount is \$1,225,000 which is the final increment of operating funds needed for the submillimeter array telescope at the Astrophysical Observatory in Hawaii, \$4,362,000 to staff and equip new and renovated facilities such as the National Museum of Natural History's East Court Project, the National Museum of the American Indian Cultural Resources Center in Suitland, the Tropical Research Institute, and \$960,000 for enhancements to the Collections Information System which provides electronic outreach to the public.

CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS, NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$3,850,000
Budget estimate, 1998	3,850,000
Recommended, 1998	3,850,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$3,850,000, which is level with the 1997 enacted level and the fiscal year 1998 budget request. The Committee continues to urge the Smithsonian to concentrate these funds on ongoing repairs, preventive maintenance and improvements of its existing facilities.

REPAIR AND RESTORATION OF BUILDINGS

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$39,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	32,000,000
Recommended, 1998	50,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+11,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+18,000,000

The Committee recommends \$50,000,000 for repair and restoration of buildings, an increase of \$11,000,000 over the enacted level and \$18,000,000 above the fiscal year 1998 budget request. The Committee continues to recognize backlog maintenance as the highest priority for the Smithsonian. Testimony the last two years confirms the total backlog maintenance need to be \$250,000,000.

CONSTRUCTION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$10,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	58,000,000
Recommended, 1998	0
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	- 10,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	- 58,000,000

The Committee does not provide the \$58,000,000 requested in the fiscal year 1998 budget for the construction of the National Museum of the American Indian Mall museum (NMAI).

The Committee provided \$4,000,000 to the Smithsonian to complete planning and design of the NMAI Mall museum in the fiscal year 1997 bill. The conference report included language stating that this would be a logical stopping point on this project. The funds were provided so that the \$5,300,000 in Federal funds and the \$3,400,000 in donated funds already spent on design would not be wasted.

The Committee previously directed the Smithsonian to downsize the building or raise additional private funds for this project. The Smithsonian has not complied with these directives. In addition, the Smithsonian has testified that should \$50,000,000 not be provided each year for the next ten years for its Repair & Restoration program, major museum buildings will need to be closed to the public because of its critical backlog of maintenance needs. The Committee notes that its recommendation for the repair and restoration account fully addresses the annual need by providing \$50,000,000 in this bill, \$18,000,000 more than the Administration's request.

In summary, the Committee has appropriated the budget request for uncontrollables, program increases and the National Zoological Park. It has exceeded the request for major repair and renovations. However, it does not agree that providing construction funds for a third National Museum of the American Indian, given the critical backlog maintenance needs, is prudent at this point in time.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The National Gallery of Art is one of the world's great galleries. Its magnificent works of art are displayed for the benefit of millions of visitors from across this nation and from other nations. The National Gallery of Art serves as an example of a successful cooperative endeavor between private individuals and institutions and the Federal Government. The many special exhibitions shown in the Gallery and then throughout the country bring great art treasures to Washington and the Nation.

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$54,281,000
Budget estimate, 1998	53,899,000
Recommended, 1998	55,837,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+1,556,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+1,938,000

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Care and utilization of art collections.....	20,921	22,066	+1,145
Operation and maintenance of buildings and grounds....	12,262	12,648	+386
Protection of buildings, grounds and contents.....	11,663	11,933	+270
General administration.....	9,053	9,190	+137
Total, Salaries and Expenses.....	53,899	55,837	+1,938

The Committee recommends \$55,837,000 for salaries and expenses of the National Gallery of Art, an increase of \$1,938,000 above the budget request. The amount recommended by the Committee includes increases of \$981,000 for mandatory pay increases, \$207,000 for water and sewer costs, and \$750,000 to maintain the special exhibition budget at the 1997 level.

REPAIR, RESTORATION AND RENOVATION OF BUILDINGS

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$5,942,000
Budget estimate, 1998	5,942,000
Recommended, 1998	6,442,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+500,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+500,000

The Committee recommends \$6,442,000 for repair, restoration and renovation of buildings, an increase of \$500,000 above the budget request. The increase recommended by the Committee is to

address the most critical backlog maintenance needs at the National Gallery.

CONSTRUCTION

The Committee has not included funding for Smithsonian Institution construction yet expresses strong support for the Air & Space Museum Extension to be located at Washington Dulles International Airport in Virginia.

The Committee believes that the financing plan developed for this project, which requires funds for construction to be non-federal, should be a model for further Smithsonian museum projects.

The Committee notes that the Commonwealth of Virginia has exceeded required commitment to the project as has the local business community and believes this meritorious project should proceed.

JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is a living memorial to the late President Kennedy and the national center for the performing arts. The Center consists of over 1.5 million square feet of usable floor space with visitation averaging 10,000 on a daily basis.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$12,475,000
Budget estimate, 1998	11,375,000
Recommended, 1998	11,375,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	- 1,100,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$11,375,000, the budget request, for operations and maintenance. This represents an increase of \$500,000 over the base allocation for fiscal year 1997. This increase will allow the Center to maintain a portion of the enhanced security and anti-terrorism funds provided under Public Law 104-208. This total also provides the 3.1 percent Federal pay-raise.

CONSTRUCTION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$12,400,000
Budget estimate, 1998	9,000,000
Recommended, 1998	9,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	- 3,400,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Committee recommends \$9,000,000, the same as budget request. The capitol budget will be used to continue to address several critical remedial actions, particularly life safety and accessibility projects, needed to bring the structure up to current standards and codes.

WOODROW WILSON INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR SCHOLARS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$5,840,000
Budget estimate, 1998	5,840,000
Recommended, 1998	1,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	- 4,840,000
Budget estimate, 1998	- 4,840,000

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars is a unique institution with a special mission to serve as a living memorial to the late Woodrow Wilson. The Center performs this mandate through its role as an international institute for advanced study as well as a facilitator for discussions among scholars, public officials, journalists and business leaders from across the country on major long-term issues facing America and the world.

In the Center's early years it appears it was more successful in bringing the worlds of scholarship and public policy together. At that time the work of the scholars appeared to have some relevance to current public policy issues. That objective is no longer of importance to the current management and as a result the Center seems to have lost its public policy function.

A recent review of the Center by the National Academy of Public Administration was critical of the Center on a number of fronts. While the Academy cited some accomplishments, the Academy pointed out that the Center lacked a clear mission statement; did not have a process for choosing scholars which would ensure a connection between the scholars work and relevant public policy issues; and demonstrated little or no connection between the Center's programs and the fellows. In fact the Academy review noted that the Center currently emphasizes scholarly pursuits over its public policy objectives. The original goal of the Center, to link these two worlds, has effectively been lost.

The Academy review was also highly critical of the Center's management. The only accomplishment the Academy could cite for the current director was obtaining new office space on Pennsylvania Avenue. While management deficiencies could be addressed with a change in leadership, it is the Committee's view that the Center has operated so long without a clear mission that it may be impossible to reestablish one within an organization that has no relevance to real world public policy issues.

The Committee does, however, want to continue to honor the principles and ideals, most notably peace and international co-operation, of President Wilson.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$82,734,000
Budget estimate, 1998	119,240,000
Recommended, 1998	10,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	- 72,734,000
Budget estimate, 1998	- 109,240,000

The Committee recommends \$10,000,000 for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The Committee notes that this level is consistent with the agreement reached on the floor of the House during the debate over the fiscal year 1996 Interior appropriations bill.

MATCHING GRANTS

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$16,760,000
Budget estimate, 1998	16,760,000
Recommended, 1998	0
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	- 16,760,000
Budget estimate, 1998	- 16,760,000

The Committee recommends no funding for matching grants.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) was created in 1965 to encourage and support national progress in the humanities. The NEH provides, through a merit-based review process, grants in support of education, research, document and artifact preservation, and public service in the humanities.

GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$96,100,000
Budget estimate, 1998	118,250,000
Recommended, 1998	96,100,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	- 22,150,000

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Grants			
Program grants	50,300	34,000	-16,300
State programs	30,150	28,000	-2,150
Office of Preservation	21,000	18,000	-3,000
Subtotal, Grants	101,450	80,000	-21,450
Administrative Areas			
Administration	16,800	16,100	-700
Total, Grants and Administration	118,250	96,100	-22,150

The Committee recommends \$96,100,000 for grants and administration, \$22,150,000 below the budget request and the same as appropriated in 1997. This funding level is consistent with the agreement reached on the floor of the House during debate over the fiscal year 1996 Interior appropriations bill.

MATCHING GRANTS

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$13,900,000
Budget estimate, 1998	17,750,000
Recommended, 1998	13,900,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	-3,850,000

The Committee recommends the same level of funding for matching grants as appropriated in fiscal year 1997, \$13,900,000. This is \$3,850,000 below the budget request. The Committee notes that museums located in inner city areas can positively impact the communities in which they are located and have a special responsibility to improve the cultural and educational opportunities for inner city youth living in nearby neighborhoods.

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

OFFICE OF MUSEUM SERVICES

GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$22,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	26,000,000
Recommended, 1998	23,390,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+1,390,000
Budget estimate, 1998	-2,610,000

The Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) was created in the Museum and Library Services Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-208) which merged library services functions of the Department of Education into the Institute of Museum Services (IMS). The IMS functions now come under the Office of Museum Services (OMS) portion of the IMLS. The OMS appropriation remains in the Interior and related agencies bill and the Office of Library Services appropriation remains in the Labor, Health and Human Services appropriations bill. The OMS provides operating support, conservation support and professional services to assist museums. General operating support awards assist museums with essential operating expenditures.

The amounts recommended by the Committee compared with the budget estimates by activity are shown in the following table:

	(in thousands of dollars)		
	Budget Request	Committee Bill	Change from Request
Grants to Museums			
Support for operations.....	17,060	16,060	-1,000
Support for conservation.....	4,850	3,240	-1,610
Services to the profession.....	2,200	2,200	---
Subtotal, Grants to Museums.....	24,110	21,500	-2,610
Program administration.....	1,890	1,890	---
Total, Institute of Museum Services.....	26,000	23,390	-2,610

The Committee recommends \$23,390,000 for the Office of Museum Services, which is \$2,610,000 below the budget request and

\$1,390,000 above the 1997 funding level for the former Institute of Museum Services. The Committee is encouraged by the progress to date of this merger and is pleased that there has been so little disruption of services to the museum community. The recommended funding level includes increases above 1997 of \$390,000 for fixed cost increases and \$1,000,000 within the services to the profession activity for the national leadership projects initiative. The Committee encourages the museum and library functions within the IMLS to enhance overall collaboration and work towards greater efficiencies as envisioned by the new authorization.

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

The Commission of Fine Arts was established in 1910 to meet the need for a permanent body to advise the government on matters pertaining to the arts, and particularly, to guide the architectural development of Washington. Over the years the Commission's scope has been expanded to include advice on areas such as plans for parks, public buildings, location of national monuments and development of public squares. As a result, the Commission annually reviews approximately 500 projects. In fiscal year 1988 the Commission was given responsibility for the National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs program.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$867,000
Budget estimate, 1998	867,000
Recommended, 1998	907,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+40,000
Budget estimate, 1998	+40,000

The Committee recommends \$907,000 for salaries and expenses of the Commission of Fine Arts, which is \$40,000 above both the budget request and the 1997 funding level. The \$40,000 increase is for fixed cost increases.

NATIONAL CAPITAL ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$6,000,000
Budget estimate, 1998	6,000,000
Recommended, 1998	6,000,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs program was established in Public Law 99-190 to support artistic and cultural programs in the Nation's Capital. This program was established by Congress in recognition of the fact that major arts institutions in the District of Columbia, unlike their counterparts in other cities, have little access to non-Federal public funding, particularly for general operating support purposes. But in order to assure that public funding does not displace the role of private sector support, no grant from this program may exceed 25 percent of an institution's annual income budget. For fiscal year 1998, the Committee recommends \$6,000,000, which is equal to the 1997 level and the budget request.

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$2,500,000
Budget estimate, 1998	2,745,000
Recommended, 1998	2,700,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+200,000
Budget estimate, 1998	- 45,000

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 established the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The Advisory Council was reauthorized as part of the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-333). The Council's mandate is to further the national policy of preserving historic and cultural resources for the benefit of present and future generations. The Council advises the President and Congress on preservation matters and provides consultation on historic properties threatened by Federal action. The Committee recommends that the Advisory Council aggressively pursue private funding to support the council's technical development and training activities.

The Committee recommends \$2,700,000 for salaries and expenses of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. This is \$45,000 less than the budget request and \$200,000 above the 1997 funding level.

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$5,390,000
Budget estimate, 1998	5,740,000
Recommended, 1998	5,700,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	+310,000
Budget estimate, 1998	- 40,000

The National Capital Planning Act of 1952 designated the National Capital Planning Commission as the central planning agency for the Federal government in the National Capital Region. The three major functions of the Commission are to prepare and adopt the federal elements of the National Capital Comprehensive Plan, prepare an annual report on a five-year projection of the Federal Capital Improvement Program, and review plans and proposals submitted to the Commission.

To support this mission, the Committee recommends \$5,700,000, \$40,000 below the budget request and \$310,000 above the 1997 funding level. The Committee remains interested in the Beltsville area conceptual plan and the ramifications it may have for government office building costs in the future. The Committee has provided funds above the 1997 level for fixed cost increases, but the Committee has not provided funds for the NCPC to become full partners and purchasers of a Washington Geographical Information System. The Committee recognizes the importance of such a geographic information system to the proper planning and management of the national capital area, but the Committee does not believe that the NCPC should be the primary supporter or operator

of such a system. Rather, the NCPC should collaborate with other institutions and share its special and detailed planning expertise.

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$500,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0
Recommended, 1998	0
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	- 500,000
Budget estimate, 1998	0

The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission, in conjunction with the National Park Service in the Department of the Interior, was responsible for planning and overseeing the completion of a suitable memorial to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The Memorial was opened in May 1997. There is no further need for funding for the Commission in fiscal year 1998.

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL COUNCIL

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL COUNCIL

Appropriation enacted, 1997	\$31,707,000
Budget estimate, 1998	31,707,000
Recommended, 1998	31,707,000
Comparison:	
Appropriation, 1997	0
Budget estimate, 1998	0

In 1980 Congress passed legislation creating a 65 member Holocaust Memorial Council with the mandate to create and oversee a living memorial/museum to victims of holocausts. The museum opened in April 1993. Construction costs for the museum have come solely from donated funds raised by the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Campaign and appropriated funds have been used for planning and development of programmatic components, overall administrative support and annual commemorative observances. Since the opening of the museum, appropriated funds have been provided to pay for the ongoing operating costs of the museum as authorized by Public Law 102-529.

The Committee recommends \$31,707,000, the budget request. This amount actually reflects a \$1,000,000 increase over the enacted base. The Committee is allowing the Holocaust Museum to retain the \$1,000,000 provided last year on a one-time basis for anti-terrorism security positions.

The Committee continues to be concerned about the growing backlog maintenance and significant repairs for a building that is only four years old. Since its opening in April 1993, the Committee has provided additional funds to make major repairs to the heating, ventilation and air condition system, museum exhibit areas, the skylights which have been leaking and rusting as well as other significant repairs and replacements. Responses to Committee questions regarding the reason for the backlog included the need to spend repair and rehabilitation funds on security needs. In fact, the Committee has provided millions in additional earmarked

funds the last several years specifically for enhancements to security.

The Committee has provided no-year funds specifically for repair, rehabilitation and exhibit development and production each year since the museum opening. The Committee has also been generous with its annual appropriations. Therefore, the Committee strongly urges the Holocaust Museum to balance maintenance needs with program and staff enhancements as it prepares for the fiscal year 1999 budget submission. If the maintenance backlog is increasing, then future staff, space and program increases should be deferred.

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The Committee recommends continuing several provisions carried in previous bills as follows:

Section 301 provides for public availability of information on consulting services contracts.

Section 302 limits non-competitive leasing of oil and natural gas on the Shawnee National Forest, Illinois.

Section 303 prohibits activities to promote public support or opposition to legislative proposals.

Section 304 provides for annual appropriations unless expressly provided otherwise in this Act.

Section 305 limits the use of personal cooks, chauffeurs or servants.

Section 306 limits assessments against programs without Committee approval.

Section 307 contains Buy American procedures and requirements.

Section 308 limits the sale of giant sequoia trees by the Forest Service.

Section 309 prohibits the use of funds by the National Park Service to enter into a contract requiring the removal of the underground lunchroom at Carlsbad Caverns NP.

Section 310 allows the Secretary to determine the use of certain construction funds after consultation with tribes.

Section 311 provides that quarterly payments to tribes may be made on the first business day following the first day of a fiscal year.

Section 312 provides that no funds can be used for Americorps unless it is funded in the VA, HUD and Independent Agencies fiscal year 1998 appropriations, and makes use of such funds subject to reprogramming.

Section 313 continues a limitation of funding relating to a pedestrian bridge between New Jersey and Ellis Island.

Section 314 continues a limitation on accepting and processing applications for patents and on the patenting of Federal lands; permits processing of grandfathered applications; and permits third-party contractors to process grandfathered applications.

Section 315 provides that no funds can be used for the purposes of acquiring lands in the counties of Gallia, Lawrence, Monroe, or Washington, Ohio, for the Wayne National Forest.

Section 316 continues a limitation on issuance of a final rule-making on jurisdiction, management and control over navigable waters in the State of Alaska with respect to subsistence fishing.

Section 317 keeps in place only the regulations and interim rules in effect prior to September 8, 1995 (36 CFR 223.48, 36 CFR 223.87, 36 CFR 223 Subpart D, 36 CFR 223 Subpart F, and 36 CFR 261.1) governing the export of State and Federal timber in the western United States. This language is retained so that the Administration, Congress and affected parties can have more time to address policy issues with respect to Public Law 101-382, the Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1990. The language prohibits the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior from reviewing or making modifications to existing sourcing areas. The language prohibits either Secretary from enforcing or implementing regulations promulgated on September 8, 1995 at 36 CFR Part 223. The bill language also directs the Secretary of Commerce to continue the 100 percent ban on the export of logs that originate from Washington State-owned public lands.

Section 318 prohibits the use of funds for the western director and special assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture.

Section 319 limits Jobs in the Woods programs to timber dependent areas in Washington, Oregon, and northern California.

Section 320 amends the Recreational Fee Demonstration program established as section 315 in the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1996. The amendment permits the land management agencies to keep 100 percent of funds collected by the program beginning in fiscal year 1998.

Section 321 prohibits the use of recreational fees for the construction of any permanent structure without advance Committee approval.

Section 322 amends existing law to enhance forest health activities by the Forest Service.

Section 323 requires the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management project to do economic and social analyses. The Committee is very concerned about the discrepancy in the level of analysis between the impacts on the environment and the impacts on individuals and communities in the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project (ICBEMP) draft environmental statements (DEISs) released in May 1997 by the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior. It is very important to the Committee that the project integrate, to the greatest extent practicable, information available regarding the economic and social conditions, and cultures and customs of the communities within the project area in a manner comparable to the natural resource analyses involved in the project. Economic and social analyses should not blur nor obscure the very real concerns of the many natural resource dependent communities within the 164 sub-basins in the project area. The recommended bill language requires that a more thorough analysis be done at the sub-basin level and that this be released for public review and comment as an addition to the two DEISs of May 1997. The Secretaries should extend the comment period for the existing DEISs as necessary in order to include this additional analysis and public review. The final environmental impact statements and record of decisions for the projects may not be released unless they incorporate this new analysis and the public comments to the analysis. It is the intent of the Committee that the prescriptive standards generated by the project should reflect local conditions for

both the natural resources and the human resources of the project area.

Section 324 includes language stipulating the conditions under which cities, towns, and villages in certain counties in New York can participate in the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area.

RESCISSIONS

Pursuant to clause 1(b), rule X of the House of Representatives, the following table is submitted describing the rescissions recommended in the accompanying bill:

RESCISSION RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL

<i>Department and activity</i>	<i>Amounts recommended for rescission</i>
Department of the Interior: Land and Water Conservation Fund (contract authority)	\$30,000,000
Department of Energy, Clean Coal Technology	100,000,000

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Pursuant to clause 1(b), rule X of the House of Representatives, the following table is submitted describing the transfer of funds provided in the accompanying bill.

The table shows the appropriations affected by such transfers.

APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL

Account from which transfer is to be made	Amount	Account to which transfer is to be made	Amount
Department of Energy, Alternative Fuels Production.	\$1,500,000	General Fund of the Treasury	\$1,500,000
Department of Energy, Strategic Petroleum Reserve.	209,000,000	Treasury, SPR Fund	209,000,000

CHANGES IN APPLICATION OF EXISTING LAW

Pursuant to clause 3, rule XXI of the rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted describing the effect of provisions in the accompanying bill which directly or indirectly change the application of existing law. In most instances these provisions have been included in prior appropriations Acts.

The bill provides that certain appropriations items remain available until expended or extends the availability of funds beyond the fiscal year where programs or projects are continuing in nature under the provisions of authorizing legislation but for which that legislation does not specifically authorize such extended availability. Most of these items have been carried in previous appropriations Acts. This authority tends to result in savings by preventing the practice of committing funds at the end of the fiscal year.

The bill includes, in certain instances, limitations on the obligation of funds for particular functions or programs. These limitations include restrictions on the obligation of funds for administrative expenses, travel expenses, the use of consultants, and programmatic areas within the overall jurisdiction of a particular agency.

The Committee has included limitations for official entertainment or reception and representation expenses for selected agencies in the bill.

Language is included in the various parts of the bill to continue ongoing activities of those Federal agencies which require annual authorization or additional legislation which to date has not been enacted.

Language is included under Bureau of Land Management, Management of lands and resources, prohibiting the destruction of healthy, unadopted, wild horses and burros.

Language is included under Bureau of Land Management, Management of lands and resources, permitting the collection of fees for processing applications and for certain public land uses, and permitting the use of these fees for program operations.

Language is included under Bureau of Land Management, Payments in lieu of taxes, to exclude any payment that is less than \$100.

Language is included under Bureau of Land Management, Central hazardous materials fund, providing that sums received from a party for remedial actions shall be credited to the account, and defining non-monetary payments.

Language is included under Bureau of Land Management, Service charges, deposits, and forfeitures, to allow use of funds on any damaged public lands.

Language is included under Bureau of Land Management, Administrative provisions, providing for cost-sharing arrangements for printing services.

Language is included under United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Resource management, allowing for the maintenance of the herd of long-horned cattle on the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge. Without this language, the long-horned cattle would have to be removed from the refuge. Language is included providing for a Youth Conservation Corps. Language is included under United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Natural resource damage assessment, to allow previous proceeds from past liquidation of stocks and other noncash payments to remain available until expended. Language is also included limiting funding for the Endangered Species Act listing program.

Language is included under United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Administrative provisions, providing for repair of damage to public roads; options for the purchase of land not to exceed \$1; installation of certain recreation facilities; the maintenance and improvement of aquaria; the acceptance of donated aircraft; cost-shared arrangements for printing services. Language is included limiting the use of funds for the purchase of lands. Language is also included to allow the Secretary to sell land and interests in land and deposit the receipts in the Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund.

Language is included under National Park Service, Operation of the National Park System to allow road maintenance service to trucking permittees on a reimbursable basis. This provision has been included in annual appropriations Acts since 1954.

Language is included under National Park Service, Operation of the National Park System, providing for a Youth Conservation Corps program.

Language is included under National Park Service, Administrative provisions, preventing the implementation of an agreement for the redevelopment of the southern end of Ellis Island and limiting the use of funds to specified amounts for certain offices.

Language is included under United States Geological Survey, Surveys, investigations and research, providing for two-year availability of funds for biological research and for the operations of cooperative research units; permitting the purchase of passenger motor vehicles; prohibiting the conduct of new surveys on private property; and requiring cost sharing cooperative topographic mapping activities.

Language is included under United States Geological Survey, Administrative provisions, providing for the reimbursement to the GSA for security guard services; for contracting for topographic maps and geophysical or other surveys; and for the use of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements.

Language is included under Minerals Management Service, Royalty and offshore minerals management, providing for reasonable expenses related to volunteer beach and marine clean-up activities; providing for refunds for overpayments on Indian allottee leases and providing for collecting royalties and late payment interest on amounts received in settlements associated with Federal and Indian leases.

Language is included under Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Regulation and technology, to allow the use of performance bond forfeitures by the regulatory authority to conduct reclamation activities; the use of monies collected pursuant to assessment of civil penalties to reclaim lands affected by coal mining after August 3, 1977; and permitting payment to State and tribal personnel for travel and per diem expenses for training.

Language is included under Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Abandoned mine reclamation fund, which earmarks specific amounts in the account for emergency reclamation projects and which allows use of debt recovery to pay for debt collection. Language included is allowing the State of Maryland to set aside funds for acid mine abatement. Language also is included permitting donations and providing for supplemental grants to States for remediating acid mine drainage.

Language is included under Bureau of Indian Affairs, Operation of Indian programs, for advance payments to Indian schools and business enterprises. Language also is included to change the dates of payments for grants to schools under Public Law 100-297 and to permit local school boards to determine teacher compensation rates. Language also is included allowing the Cibecue Community School to use carryover funds to construct a new school building.

Language is included under Bureau of Indian Affairs, Operation of Indian programs, allowing reprogramming of Self-Governance funds, allowing changes to certain eligibility criteria by tribal governments, allowing the transfer of certain forestry funds, providing for an Indian self-determination fund, prohibiting support of Alas-

ka schools in 1997; limiting the number of Bureau schools, and limiting the use of funds for any expanded grade levels in schools.

Language is included under Bureau of Indian Affairs, Construction, providing that 6 percent of Federal Highway Trust Fund contract authority may be used for management costs, providing for the transfer of Navajo irrigation project funds to the Bureau of Reclamation, and providing Safety of Dams funds on a non-reimbursable basis.

Language is included under Departmental Offices, Insular Affairs, Assistance to Territories, requiring audits of the financial transactions of the Territorial governments by the General Accounting Office, providing grant funding under certain terms of the Agreement of the Special Representatives on Future United States Financial Assistance for the Northern Mariana Islands, providing a grant to the Close-Up foundation, and allowing appropriations for disaster assistance to be used as non-Federal matching funds for hazard mitigation grants provided pursuant to other law.

Language is included under Departmental offices, Office of Special Trustee for American Indians, specifying that the statute of limitations shall not commence on any claim resulting from trust funds losses.

Language is included under Departmental Offices, Administrative provisions, prohibiting the use of working capital or consolidated working funds to augment certain offices, and allowing the sale of existing aircraft with proceeds used to offset the purchase price of replacement aircraft.

Language is included under General provisions, Department of the Interior, to allow transfer of funds in certain emergency situations, requiring replacement with a supplemental appropriation request, and designating certain transferred funds as "emergency requirements" under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Language is included under General provisions, Department of the Interior, to consolidate services and receive reimbursement for said services. Language also is included providing for uniform allowances.

Language is included under General provisions, Department of the Interior, to allow for obligations in connection with contracts issued for services or rentals for periods not in excess of 12 months beginning at any time during the fiscal year.

Language is included under General provisions, Department of the Interior, prohibiting the use of funds for a rulemaking concerning certain rights-of-way.

Language is included under General Provisions, Department of the Interior, restricting various oil and gas preleasing, leasing, exploration and drilling activities within the Outer Continental Shelf in the Georges Bank-North Atlantic planning area, Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic planning area, Eastern Gulf of Mexico planning area, North Aleutian Basin planning area, Northern, Southern and Central California planning areas, and Washington/Oregon planning area.

Language is included under General provisions, Department of the Interior, limiting the investment of Federal funds by Indian tribes.

Language is included under General provisions, Department of the Interior, providing for expanded employee benefits to compensate for the closure of the helium program.

Language is included under General provisions, Department of the Interior, prohibiting the use of funds to establish a new regional office in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service without advance approval from the Appropriations Committees.

Language is included under Forest Service, National forest system, earmarking funds for obliteration of roads.

Language is included under Forest Service, Wildland fire management, allowing the use of funds to repay advances from other accounts.

Language is included under Forest Service, Reconstruction and construction, limiting use of purchaser road credits to small businesses.

Language is included under Forest Service, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Restoration Fund, allowing use of certain receipts to help restore the site.

Language is included under Forest Service, Acquisition of lands to complete exchanges, and Acquisition of lands for national forest special acts, to provide that revenues and funds deposited are made available for appropriation.

Language is included under Forest Service, Range Betterment Fund, to provide that 6 percent of the funds may be used for administrative expenses.

Language is included under Forest Service, Administrative provisions, limiting the availability of funds to change the boundaries of or abolish any region or to move or close any regional office. Language is also provided to allow for advances for firefighting and emergency rehabilitation of damaged lands or waters, to provide for the use of collected fire funds, and to provide that proceeds from the sale of aircraft may be used to purchase replacement aircraft.

Language is included under Forest Service, Administrative provisions, to provide for a Youth Conservation Corps program.

Language is included under Forest Service, Administrative provisions, allowing funds to be used through the Agency for International Development and the Foreign Agricultural Service for work in foreign countries, and to support forestry activities outside of the United States; and providing that money collected from States for fire suppression may be used for authorized programs.

Language is included under Forest Service, Administrative provisions, to prohibit transfer of funds among appropriations without advance approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, and to prohibit transfer of funds to the working capital fund of the Department of Agriculture without approval of the Chief of the Forest Service.

Language is included under Forest Service, Administrative provisions, providing for nonmonetary awards, and allowing payment for emergency work.

Language is included under Forest Service, Administrative provisions, allowing reimbursement of certain pipeline rights-of-way costs, allowing payments in emergency situations at regular rates of pay, limiting clearcutting in the Wayne National Forest, Ohio, prohibiting preparation of certain timber sales in the Shawnee Na-

tional Forest, Illinois, permitting the transfer of certain funds to the State of Washington fish and wildlife department for planned projects, allowing technical assistance to rural communities, providing \$2,000,000 for matching funds and administrative expenses for the National Forest Foundation and also for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, providing that funds shall be available for payment to counties within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area pursuant to Public Law 99-663, providing authority to the Pinchot Institute for activities at Grey Towers National Historic Landmark, allowing payments to Del Norte County, CA pursuant to Public Law 101-612, and allowing funds for retrofitting at Norton Air Force Base for Forest Service offices.

Language is included under Department of Energy, Fossil energy research and development, which places a limitation on the field testing of nuclear explosives for the recovery of oil and gas.

Language is included under Department of Energy, Naval Petroleum and oil shale reserves waiving sales requirements based on Strategic Petroleum Reserves oil purchases.

Language is included under Department of Energy, Energy conservation, which provides for an allocation of grants to State and local programs.

Language is included under Department of Energy, Strategic Petroleum Reserve, which provides for the sale of SPR oil and the use of proceeds for SPR operations and waiving the Budget Act.

Language is included under Department of Energy, SPR petroleum account, which places an outlay ceiling on the account, and which waives minimum purchase requirements for operating Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 1.

Language is included under Administrative provisions, Department of Energy, limiting programs of price supports and loan guarantees to what is provided in appropriations Acts; providing for the transfer of funds to other agencies of the Government; providing for retention of revenues by the Secretary of Energy on certain projects; requiring certain contracts be submitted to Congress prior to implementation; prohibiting issuance of procurement documents without appropriations; permitting the use of contributions and fees for cooperative projects; and permitting the Federal Energy Management Program to accept funds from other Federal agencies for energy saving performance contracts.

Language is included under Indian Health Service, Indian health services, providing that contracts and grants may be performed in two fiscal years and for a Self-Determination Fund; and providing for use of collections under Title IV of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

Language is included under Indian Health Service, Indian health facilities, providing that funds may be used to purchase land, modular buildings and trailers.

Language is included under Indian Health Service, Administrative provisions, providing for payments for telephone service in private residences in the field, purchase of reprints, purchase and erection of portable buildings, and allowing deobligation and reobligation of funds applied to self-governance funding agreements.

Language is included under Indian Health Service, Administrative provisions, providing that health care may be extended to non-

Indians at Indian Health Service facilities and providing for expenditure of funds transferred to IHS from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Language is included under Indian Health Service, Administrative provisions, to prevent the Indian Health Service from billing Indians in order to collect from third-party payers until Congress has agreed to implement a specific policy.

Language is included under Indian Health Service, Administrative provisions, allowing payment of expenses for meeting attendance, specifying that certain funds shall not be subject to certain travel limitations, prohibiting the expenditure of funds to implement new eligibility regulations, providing that funds be apportioned only in the appropriation structure in this Act, and prohibiting changing the appropriations structure without approval of the Appropriations Committees.

Language is included under Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation, salaries and expenses, defining eligible relocatees; prohibiting movement of any single Navajo or Navajo family unless a new or replacement home is available; limiting relocatees to one new or replacement home; and establishing a priority for relocation of Navajos to those certified eligible who have selected and received homesites on the Navajo reservation or selected a replacement residence off the Navajo reservation.

Language is included under Smithsonian Institution, Salaries and expenses, to allow for advance payments to independent contractors performing research services or participating in official Smithsonian presentations, and providing that funds may be used to support American overseas research centers.

Language is included under Smithsonian Institution, Construction and improvements, National Zoological Park, and Repair and restoration of buildings, to construct facilities by contract or otherwise.

Language is included under Smithsonian Institution, Repair and restoration of buildings, to permit the Smithsonian Institution to select contractors for certain purposes on the basis of contractor qualifications as well as price.

Language is included under National Gallery of Art, Salaries and expenses, for payment in advance for membership in library, museum, and art associations or societies and for restoration and repair of works of art by contract without advertising.

Language is included under National Gallery of Art, Repair, restoration and renovation of buildings, to perform work by contract or otherwise and to select contractors for certain purposes on the basis of contractor qualifications as well as price.

Language is included under National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities, Matching grants, to allow for the obligation of current and preceding fiscal years' funds of gifts, bequests, and devises of money for which equal amounts have not previously been appropriated.

Language is included under Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to restrict hiring anyone at Executive Level V or higher positions.

Language is included under National Capital Planning Commission, salaries and expenses, to provide for a pay level at the rate

of Executive Level IV for all appointed members and to allow retention of receipts generated through geographic information system services.

Title III—General provisions contains language carried in previous appropriations Acts, which limits the use of funds for the leasing of oil and natural gas by noncompetitive leasing within the boundaries of the Shawnee National Forest and prohibits use of funds to distribute literature either to promote or oppose legislative proposals on which Congressional action is incomplete.

Language is included in Title III—General provisions to prohibit the use of funds to provide personal cooks, chauffeurs or other personal servants to any office or employee and to limit use of consulting services.

Language is included in Title III—General provisions prohibiting assessments against programs funded in this bill and providing Buy American requirements.

Language is included in Title III—General provisions prohibiting the sale of giant sequoia trees in a manner different from 1996.

Language is included in Title III—General provisions prohibiting the use of funds by the National Park Service to enter into a concession contract requiring the removal of the underground lunchroom at Carlsbad Caverns NP.

Language is included in Title III—General provisions regarding the use of excess funds from contracts with Indian tribes; allowing payments to tribes on the first business day of a fiscal quarter; limiting use of funds by the AmeriCorps program; and limiting use of funds relating to a bridge between New Jersey and Ellis Island.

Language is included in Title III—General provisions continuing a limitation on accepting and processing applications for patents and on the patenting of Federal lands; permitting processing of grandfathered applications; and permitting third-party contractors to process grandfathered applications.

Language is included in Title III—General provisions, limiting the use of funds for the Wayne National Forest and for the Shawnee National Forest.

Language is included in Title III—General provisions, limiting the use of funds for issuing a final rulemaking on jurisdiction over subsistence fishing in Alaska; limiting the use of funds for enforcing certain timber policies; amending the pilot recreational fee demonstration program for the land management agencies in this bill by removing the base year provision; requiring Committee approval prior to using recreational fees for constructing permanent buildings; providing greater flexibility for use of the reforestation trust fund by the Forest Service; prohibiting use of funds for certain Secretary of Agriculture office functions; requiring social and economic analysis be included in the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management project documents; and specifying conditions under which certain counties and municipalities in the State of New York may participate in Heritage area programs.

APPROPRIATIONS NOT AUTHORIZED BY LAW

Pursuant to clause 3 of rule XXI of the House of Representatives, the following table lists the appropriations in the accompanying bill which, in whole or in part, are not authorized by law:

Department of the Interior:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Resource Management
National Park Service, National Recreation and Preservation

Department of Energy:

Fossil Energy Research and Development

Energy Conservation

Economic Regulation

Strategic Petroleum Reserve

Energy Information Administration

Other Related Agencies:

National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities:

National Endowment for the Arts

National Endowment for the Humanities

The Committee notes that authorizing legislation for many of these programs is in various stages of the legislative process and these authorizations are expected to be enacted into law later this year.

COMPLIANCE WITH RULE XIII—CLAUSE 3

In compliance with clause 3 of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

Section 315(c)(1), subsections (A) and (B) under the heading “Title III—General Provisions” in section 101(c) of Public Law 104–134, as amended by Public Law 105–18, is further amended as follows:

[(A) Of the amount in excess of 100% of the amount collected in fiscal year 1994, eighty percent to a special account in the Treasury for use without further appropriation, by the agency which administers the site, to remain available for expenditures in accordance with paragraph (2)(A).]

[(B) Of the amount in excess of 100% of the amount collected in fiscal year 1994, twenty percent to a special account in the Treasury for use without further appropriation, by the agency which administers the site, to remain available for expenditure in accordance with paragraph (2)(B).]

(A) Eighty percent to a special account in the Treasury for use without further appropriation, by the agency which administers the site, to remain available for expenditure in accordance with paragraph (2)(A).

(B) Twenty percent to a special account in the Treasury for use without further appropriation, by the agency which administers the site, to remain available for expenditure in accordance with paragraph (2)(B).

The proviso under the heading “Natural Resource Damage Assessment Fund” in Public Law 104–134 is amended as follows: *Provided*, That sums provided by any party [in fiscal year 1996 and thereafter] *heretofore and hereafter* are not limited to monetary payments and may include stocks, bonds or other personal or real property, which may be retained, liquidated or otherwise disposed of by the Secretary and such sums, *to remain available until ex-*

pended, or properties shall be utilized for the restoration of injured resources, and to conduct new damage assessment activities

Section 303(d)(1) of Public Law 96–45 is amended as follows:

(1) reforestation and timber stand improvements as specified in section 1601(d) of this title *and other forest stand improvement activities to enhance forest health and reduce hazardous fuel loads in the National Forest System*; and

FIVE-YEAR PROJECTION OF OUTLAYS

In compliance with section 308(a)(1)(C) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (Public Law 93–344), as amended, the following table contains five-year projections associated with the budget authority provided in the accompanying bill:

[In millions]

Budget authority	\$13,054
Outlays:	
Fiscal year 1998	8,781
Fiscal year 1999	3,421
Fiscal year 2000	798
Fiscal year 2001	202
Fiscal year 2002 and future years	34

ASSISTANCE TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

In accordance with section 308(a)(1)(D) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (Public Law 93–344), as amended, the financial assistance to State and local governments is as follows:

[In millions]

New budget authority	\$904
Fiscal year 1998 outlays resulting therefrom	454

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 2(1)(2)(b) of rule XI of the House of Representatives, the results of each roll call vote on an amendment or on the motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and those voting against, are printed below:

FULL COMMITTEE VOTES

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 2(1)(2)(b) of rule XI of the House of Representatives, the results of each rollcall vote on an amendment or on the motion to report, together with the names of those voting for and those voting against, are printed below:

ROLLCALL NO. 1

Date: June 26, 1997.

Measure: FY 1998 Interior Appropriations bill.

Motion by: Mr. Yates.

Description of Motion: Appropriates an additional \$89,500,000 for the National Endowment for the Arts and sells an identical amount of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

Results: Rejected 28 yeas to 31 nays.

Members Voting Yea

Ms. DeLauro
Mr. Dicks
Mr. Dixon
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Fazio
Mr. Foglietta
Mr. Forbes
Mr. Frelinghuysen
Mr. Hefner
Mr. Hoyer
Miss Kaptur
Mrs. Lowey
Mrs. Meek
Mr. Moran
Mr. Murtha
Mr. Obey
Mr. Olver
Mr. Pastor
Ms. Pelosi
Mr. Porter
Mr. Price
Mr. Sabo
Mr. Serrano
Mr. Skaggs
Mr. Stokes
Mr. Torres
Mr. Visclosky
Mr. Yates

Members Voting Nay

Mr. Aderholt
Mr. Bonilla
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Cunningham
Mr. DeLay
Mr. Dickey
Mr. Hobson
Mr. Istook
Mr. Kingston
Mr. Knollenberg
Mr. Kolbe
Mr. Latham
Mr. Lewis
Mr. Livingston
Mr. McDade
Mr. Miller
Mr. Nethercutt
Mr. Neumann
Mrs. Northup
Mr. Packard
Mr. Parker
Mr. Regula
Mr. Rogers
Mr. Skeen
Mr. Taylor
Mr. Tiahrt
Mr. Walsh
Mr. Wamp
Mr. Wicker
Mr. Wolf
Mr. Young

ROLLCALL NO. 2

Date: June 26, 1997.

Measure: FY 1998 Interior Appropriations bill.

Motion by: Mr. Obey.

Description of Motion: Appropriates an additional \$315,000,000 for the land acquisition and priority land exchanges.

Results: Rejected 21 yeas to 31 nays.

Members Voting Yea

Mr. Dicks
Mr. Dixon
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Fazio
Mr. Hefner
Mr. Hoyer
Mrs. Lowey
Mrs. Meek
Mr. Mollohan
Mr. Moran
Mr. Obey
Mr. Olver
Mr. Pastor
Ms. Pelosi
Mr. Price
Mr. Sabo
Mr. Serrano
Mr. Skaggs
Mr. Stokes
Mr. Torres
Mr. Visclosky

Members Voting Nay

Mr. Aderholt
Mr. Bonilla
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Cunningham
Mr. DeLay
Mr. Dickey
Mr. Forbes
Mr. Frelinghuysen
Mr. Hobson
Mr. Istook
Mr. Kingston
Mr. Knollenberg
Mr. Kolbe
Mr. Latham
Mr. Lewis
Mr. Livingston
Mr. Miller
Mr. Nethercutt
Mrs. Northup
Mr. Packard
Mr. Parker
Mr. Porter
Mr. Regula
Mr. Rogers
Mr. Skeen
Mr. Tiahrt
Mr. Walsh
Mr. Wamp
Mr. Wicker
Mr. Wolf
Mr. Young

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1997
AND THE BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1998 – PERMANENT AUTHORITY**

[These funds become available automatically under earlier, or "permanent" law without further, or annual action by the Congress.
Thus, these amounts are not included in the accompanying bill.]

(1) Agency and item	(2) New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1997	(3) Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1998	(4) Fiscal year 1998 estimate compared with, fiscal year 1997
FEDERAL FUNDS			
Department of the Interior			
Bureau of Land Management:			
Operation and maintenance of quarters.....	250,000	250,000	.....
Recreation fee collection	885,000	1,058,000	+ 173,000
Forest ecosystems health and recovery.....	9,051,000	9,329,000	+ 278,000
Expenses, road maintenance deposits.....	1,500,000	1,500,000	.....
Recreation fee demonstration.....	2,900,000	3,800,000	+ 900,000
Timber sale pipeline restoration.....	47,368,000	.....	-47,368,000
Payments to Oklahoma, in lieu of taxes on Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache tribal lands	4,000	4,000	.....
Coos Bay Wagon Road grant lands, payments to Coos Bay and Douglas Counties, Oregon, in lieu of taxes.....	588,000	536,000	-52,000
Payments to States (proceeds of sales).....	726,000	700,000	-26,000
Mineral leasing act	755,000	755,000	.....
Payments to States from grazing receipts, public lands	2,470,000	2,420,000	-50,000
Payment to counties, national grasslands.....	361,000	350,000	-11,000
Payments to Western Oregon counties	70,265,000	67,492,000	-2,773,000
Gold Creek Association	5,516,000	.....	-5,516,000
Haida Corporation account	47,573,000	.....	-47,573,000
Calisto Property account.....	55,000,000	.....	-55,000,000

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1997
AND THE BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1998 — PERMANENT AUTHORITY—Continued**

(1) Agency and item	(2) New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1997	(3) Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1998	(4) Fiscal year 1997 estimate compared with, fiscal year 1997
National Maritime Heritage	716,000	716,000	
Payment for tax losses on land acquired for Grand Teton National Park	20,000	30,000	+ 10,000
Everglades Restoration Fund		35,000,000	+ 35,000,000
Concessions improvement	21,477,000	23,168,000	+ 1,691,000
Delaware Water Gap NRA, Route 209 operations	125,000	150,000	+ 25,000
Glacier Bay NP&P, resource protection		540,000	+ 540,000
National Park Renewal Fund	43,421,000	48,021,000	+ 4,600,000
Bureau of Indian Affairs:			
White Earth Settlement Fund	7,000,000	7,000,000	
Tribal economic recovery plan	16,301,000	17,247,000	+ 946,000
Operation and maintenance of quarters	6,000,000	6,000,000	
Claims and treaty obligations	41,000	41,000	
Operation and maintenance, Indian irrigation systems	23,667,000	24,514,000	+ 847,000
Power systems, Indian irrigation projects	46,453,000	48,074,000	+ 1,621,000
Alaska resupply program	3,500,000	3,500,000	
Cochiti wetfields solution	265,000	278,000	+ 13,000
Indian loan guaranty and insurance liquidating account	11,000,000	11,000,000	
Crow Creek Settlement payment	27,500,000		-27,500,000
Territorial and International Affairs:			
Compact of Free Association	225,125,000	127,470,000	-97,655,000
Payments to the U.S. Territories, fiscal assistance	83,000,000	85,000,000	+ 2,000,000

Departmental Management:			
Everglades restoration.....	10,000	10,000	
		1,553,805,000	-178,154,000
Total, Department of the Interior			
Department of Agriculture			
Forest Service:			
Operations and maintenance of quarters.....	7,931,000	6,722,000	-1,209,000
Expenses, brush disposal.....	45,651,000	31,509,000	-14,142,000
Licensee programs (Smokey Bear-Woodsey Owl)	121,000	121,000	
Restoration of forest lands and improvements	2,622,000	600,000	-2,022,000
Timber purchaser roads constructed by Forest Service.....	5,945,000	4,228,000	-1,717,000
Timber salvage sales	190,542,000	153,026,000	-37,516,000
Midewin national tallgrass prairie rental fees.....		300,000	+ 300,000
Recreation fee collection costs.....	1,700,000	1,700,000	
Recreation fee demonstration program	22,000	3,000,000	+ 2,978,000
Payment to Minnesota (Cook, Lake, and St. Louis counties).....	1,267,000	1,267,000	
Payments to counties, National Grasslands.....	4,083,000	6,276,000	+ 2,193,000
Payments to States, National Forest Fund (25 percent fund).....	126,796,000	136,355,000	+ 9,559,000
Payments to States, northern spotted owl guarantee	129,894,000	124,767,000	-5,127,000
Total, Forest Service.....	516,574,000	469,871,000	-46,703,000
Department of Health and Human Services			
Indian Health Services:			
Indian health facilities	4,500,000	4,700,000	+ 200,000
Total, Federal Funds	2,253,033,000	2,028,376,000	-224,657,000

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1997
AND THE BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1998 — PERMANENT AUTHORITY—Continued**

(1) Agency and item	(2) New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1997	(3) Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1998	(4) Fiscal year 1997 estimate compared with, fiscal year 1997
TRUST FUNDS			
Department of the Interior			
Bureau of Land Management:			
Miscellaneous trust funds	1,601,000	1,601,000	.....
Geological Survey:			
Contributed funds	203,000	203,000	.....
Donations and contributed funds (formerly National Biological Service)	333,000	333,000	.....
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:			
Sport fish restoration	325,593,000	304,594,000	-20,999,000
Contributed funds	2,123,000	2,123,000	.....
African Elephant Conservation Fund	1,000	1,000	.....
Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake Fish and Wildlife Fund	69,000	25,000	-44,000
National Park Service:			
Donations	17,400,000	15,900,000	-1,500,000
Preservation, birthplace of Abraham Lincoln	8,000	8,000	.....
Bureau of Indian Affairs:			
Cooperative fund (Papago)	1,260,000	1,032,000	-228,000
Indian tribal funds	335,706,000	341,277,000	+ 5,571,000
Funds contributed for the advancement of the Indian race	30,000	30,000	.....
Northern Cheyenne	17,152,000	6,656,000	-10,496,000
Bequest of George C. Edgeter	10,000	10,000	.....
Crow Creek settlement	27,500,000	1,500,000	-26,000,000

Navajo Rehabilitation Trust Fund.....	127,000	130,000	+ 3,000
Total, Department of the Interior.....	729,116,000	675,423,000	-53,693,000
Department of Agriculture - Forest Service			
Forest Service:			
Reforestation trust fund.....	30,000,000	30,000,000	.....
Cooperative work trust fund	272,652,000	239,039,000	-33,613,000
Total, Forest Service.....	302,652,000	269,039,000	-33,613,000
Other Independent Agencies			
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation:			
Donations.....	5,000	5,000	.....
National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities:			
Gifts and donations (Arts)	700,000	700,000	.....
Gifts and donations (Humanities)	100,000	100,000	.....
Institute of Museum Services:			
Gifts and donations.....	22,518	20,000	-2,518
Smithsonian Institution:			
Canal Zone biological area fund.....	253,000	280,000	+ 27,000
Total, other independent agencies	1,080,518	1,105,000	+ 24,482
Total, Trust Funds	1,032,848,518	945,567,000	-87,281,518

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1997 AND
BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 1998**

Agency and item (1)	Appropriated, 1997 (enacted to date) (2)	Budget esti- mates, 1998 (3)	Recommended in bill (4)	Bill compared with appro- priated, 1997 (5)	Bill compared with budget estimates, 1998 (6)
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR					
Bureau of Land Management					
Management of lands and resources	575,664,000	587,495,000	581,591,000	+ 5,927,000	-5,904,000
Wildland fire management	352,042,000	280,103,000	280,103,000	-71,939,000	-2,900,000
Central hazardous materials fund	12,000,000	14,900,000	12,000,000	-1,079,000	+ 100,000
Construction	4,333,000	3,154,000	3,254,000	-1,079,000	+ 12,000,000
Payments in lieu of taxes	113,500,000	101,500,000	113,500,000	-1,079,000	+ 2,100,000
Land acquisition	10,410,000	9,900,000	12,000,000	+ 1,590,000	-1,603,000
Oregon and California grant lands	103,015,000	101,406,000	101,406,000	-1,609,000	-1,603,000
Range improvements (indefinite)	9,113,000	7,510,000	9,113,000	-1,609,000	-1,603,000
Service charges, deposits, and forfeitures (indefinite)	7,966,000	7,966,000	7,966,000	-1,609,000	-1,603,000
Miscellaneous trust funds (indefinite)	7,605,000	7,605,000	7,605,000	-1,609,000	-1,603,000
Total, Bureau of Land Management	1,195,648,000	1,121,539,000	1,128,538,000	-67,110,000	+ 6,999,000
United States Fish and Wildlife Service					
Resource management	526,047,000	561,614,000	591,042,000	+ 64,995,000	+ 29,428,000
Construction	59,256,000	35,921,000	40,256,000	-19,000,000	+ 4,335,000
Natural resource damage assessment fund	4,000,000	4,628,000	4,128,000	+ 128,000	-500,000
Land acquisition	44,479,000	44,560,000	53,000,000	+ 8,521,000	+ 8,440,000
Cooperative endangered species conservation fund	14,085,000	14,000,000	14,000,000	-85,000	-85,000
National wildlife refuge fund	10,779,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	-779,000	-779,000
Rewards and operations	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	-779,000	-779,000

North American wetlands conservation fund	9,750,000	15,000,000	10,500,000	+ 750,000	-4,500,000
Rhinoceros and tiger conservation fund	400,000	400,000	400,000	.....	.....
Wildlife conservation and appreciation fund.....	800,000	800,000	800,000	.....	.....
Total, United States Fish and Wildlife Service	670,596,000	687,923,000	725,126,000	+ 54,530,000	+ 37,203,000
National Park Service					
Operation of the national park system.....	1,154,611,000	1,220,325,000	1,232,325,000	+ 77,714,000	+ 12,000,000
National recreation and preservation	37,976,000	42,063,000	43,934,000	+ 5,958,000	+ 1,871,000
Historic preservation fund.....	36,612,000	45,612,000	40,412,000	+ 3,800,000	-5,200,000
Construction	182,744,000	150,000,000	148,391,000	-34,353,000	-1,609,000
Land and water conservation fund (rescission of contract authority).....	-30,000,000	-30,000,000	-30,000,000	.....	.....
Land acquisition and state assistance	53,915,000	70,900,000	129,000,000	+ 75,085,000	+ 58,100,000
Everglades restoration fund .....	.....	100,000,000	.....	.....	-100,000,000
Total, National Park Service (net)	1,435,858,000	1,598,900,000	1,564,062,000	+ 128,204,000	-34,838,000
United States Geological Survey					
Surveys, investigations, and research	740,051,000	745,388,000	755,795,000	+ 15,744,000	+ 10,407,000
Minerals Management Service					
Royalty and offshore minerals management	156,955,000	157,922,000	139,621,000	-17,334,000	-18,301,000
Oil spill research	6,440,000	6,118,000	6,118,000	-322,000	.....
Total, Minerals Management Service	163,395,000	164,040,000	145,739,000	-17,656,000	-18,301,000

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1997 AND
BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 1998—Continued**

Agency and item (1)	Appropriated, 1997 (enacted to date) (2)	Budget esti- mates, 1998 (3)	Recommended in bill (4)	Bill compared with appro- priated, 1997 (5)	Bill compared with budget estimates, 1998 (6)
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement					
Regulation and technology.....	94,172,000	93,209,000	94,937,000	+ 765,000	+ 1,728,000
Receipts from performance bond forfeitures (indefinite)	500,000	500,000	500,000	.....	.....
Subtotal.....	94,672,000	93,709,000	95,437,000	+ 765,000	+ 1,728,000
Abandoned mine reclamation fund (definite, trust fund)	177,085,000	177,348,000	179,624,000	+ 2,539,000	+ 2,276,000
Total, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement	271,757,000	271,057,000	275,061,000	+ 3,304,000	+ 4,004,000
Bureau of Indian Affairs					
Operation of Indian programs.....	1,443,502,000	1,542,305,000	1,526,815,000	+ 83,313,000	-15,490,000
Construction	100,531,000	125,118,000	110,751,000	+ 10,220,000	-14,367,000
Indian land and water claim settlements and miscellaneous payments to Indians.....	69,241,000	59,352,000	41,352,000	-27,889,000	-18,000,000
Indian guaranteed loan program account	5,000,000	5,004,000	5,000,000	.....	-4,000
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(34,615,000)	(34,615,000)	(34,615,000)	.....	.....
Total, Bureau of Indian Affairs	1,618,274,000	1,731,779,000	1,683,918,000	+ 65,644,000	-47,861,000

Departmental Offices					
Insular Affairs:					
Assistance to Territories	37,468,000	39,494,000	40,494,000	+ 3,026,000	+ 1,000,000
Northern Marianas Islands Covenant	27,720,000	27,720,000	27,720,000	.....	.....
Subtotal, Assistance to Territories	65,188,000	67,214,000	68,214,000	+ 3,026,000	+ 1,000,000
Compact of Free Association	10,038,000	8,445,000	8,445,000	-1,593,000	.....
Mandatory payments	13,500,000	12,000,000	12,000,000	-1,500,000	.....
Subtotal, Compact of Free Association	23,538,000	20,445,000	20,445,000	-3,093,000	.....
Total, Insular Affairs	88,726,000	87,659,000	88,659,000	-67,000	+ 1,000,000
Departmental management	58,286,000	58,286,000	58,286,000	.....	.....
Office of the Solicitor	35,443,000	35,443,000	35,443,000	.....	.....
Office of Inspector General	24,439,000	24,500,000	24,439,000	.....	-61,000
National Indian Gaming Commission	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	.....	.....
Office of Special Trustee for American Indians	32,126,000	39,337,000	32,126,000	.....	-7,211,000
Total, Departmental Offices	240,020,000	246,225,000	239,953,000	-67,000	-6,272,000
Total, title I, Department of the Interior:					
New budget (obligational) authority (net)	6,335,599,000	6,566,851,000	6,518,192,000	+ 182,593,000	-48,659,000
Appropriations	(6,365,599,000)	(6,596,851,000)	(6,548,192,000)	(+ 182,593,000)	(-48,659,000)
Rescissions	(-30,000,000)	(-30,000,000)	(-30,000,000)	.....	.....
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(34,615,000)	(34,615,000)	(34,615,000)	.....	.....

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1997 AND
BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 1998—Continued**

(1) Agency and item	(2) Appropriated, 1997 (enacted to date)	(3) Budget esti- mates, 1998	(4) Recommended in bill	(5) Bill compared with appro- priated, 1997	(6) Bill compared with budget estimates, 1998
TITLE II - RELATED AGENCIES					
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE					
Forest Service					
Forest and rangeland research.....	179,786,000	179,781,000	187,644,000	+ 7,858,000	+ 7,863,000
State and private forestry.....	155,461,000	156,408,000	157,922,000	+ 2,461,000	+ 1,514,000
National forest system.....	1,278,176,000	1,325,672,000	1,364,480,000	+ 86,304,000	+ 38,808,000
Wildland fire management.....	1,080,016,000	514,311,000	599,715,000	-480,301,000	+ 85,404,000
Reconstruction and construction.....	180,184,000	146,084,000	160,122,000	-20,062,000	+ 14,038,000
Land acquisition.....	40,575,000	41,057,000	45,000,000	+ 4,425,000	+ 3,943,000
Acquisition of lands for national forests special acts.....	1,069,000	1,069,000	1,069,000	.....	.....
Acquisition of lands to complete land exchanges (indefinite).....	210,000	210,000	210,000	.....	.....
Range betterment fund (indefinite).....	3,995,000	3,811,000	3,811,000	-184,000	.....
Gifts, donations and bequests for forest and rangeland research.....	92,000	92,000	92,000	.....	.....
Midewin national tallgrass prairie restoration fund.....	.....	100,000	100,000	+ 100,000	.....
Cooperative work, Forest Service.....	.....	.....	128,000,000	+ 128,000,000	+ 128,000,000
Total, Forest Service.....	2,919,564,000	2,368,595,000	2,648,165,000	-271,399,000	+ 279,570,000

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Clean coal technology:					
Rescission	-140,000,000	-153,000,000	-100,000,000	+40,000,000	+53,000,000
Deferral		-133,000,000			+133,000,000
Subtotal	-140,000,000	-286,000,000	-100,000,000	+40,000,000	+186,000,000
Fossil energy research and development	364,704,000	346,408,000	312,153,000	-52,551,000	-34,255,000
Alternative fuels production (indefinite)	-4,000,000	-1,500,000	-1,500,000	+2,500,000	
Naval petroleum and oil shale reserves	143,786,000	117,000,000	115,000,000	-28,786,000	-2,000,000
Energy conservation	569,762,000	707,700,000	636,766,000	+67,004,000	-70,934,000
Economic regulation	2,725,000	2,725,000	2,725,000		
Strategic petroleum reserve	-11,000,000	209,000,000		+11,000,000	-209,000,000
(By transfer)	(220,000,000)		(209,000,000)	(-11,000,000)	(+209,000,000)
Energy Information Administration	66,120,000	62,800,000	66,800,000	+680,000	+4,000,000
Total, Department of Energy:					
New budget (obligational) authority (net)	992,097,000	1,158,133,000	1,031,944,000	+39,847,000	-126,189,000
Appropriations	(1,132,097,000)	(1,444,133,000)	(1,131,944,000)	(-153,000)	(-312,189,000)
Rescission	(-140,000,000)	(-153,000,000)	(-100,000,000)	(+40,000,000)	(+53,000,000)
Deferral		(-133,000,000)			(+133,000,000)
(By transfer)	(220,000,000)		(209,000,000)	(-11,000,000)	(+209,000,000)

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1997 AND
BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 1998--Continued**

(1) Agency and item	(2) Appropriated, 1997 (enacted to date)	(3) Budget esti- mates, 1998	(4) Recommended in bill	(5) Bill compared with appro- priated, 1997	(6) Bill compared with budget estimates, 1998
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES					
Indian Health Service					
Indian health services	1,806,269,000	1,835,465,000	1,829,008,000	+ 22,739,000	-6,457,000
Indian health facilities	247,731,000	286,535,000	257,310,000	+ 9,579,000	-29,225,000
Total, Indian Health Service	2,054,000,000	2,122,000,000	2,086,318,000	+ 32,318,000	-35,682,000
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION					
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education					
Indian education	61,000,000			-61,000,000	
OTHER RELATED AGENCIES					
Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation					
Salaries and expenses	19,345,000	19,345,000	18,345,000	-1,000,000	-1,000,000
Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development					
Payment to the Institute	5,500,000	5,500,000	3,000,000	-2,500,000	-2,500,000
Smithsonian Institution					
Salaries and expenses	318,492,000	334,557,000	334,557,000	+ 16,065,000	

Construction and improvements, National Zoological Park.....	3,850,000	3,850,000	3,850,000	.....	.....	.....
Repair and restoration of buildings.....	39,000,000	32,000,000	50,000,000	+ 11,000,000	+ 18,000,000	
Construction.....	10,000,000	58,000,000	.....	-10,000,000	-58,000,000	
Total, Smithsonian Institution	371,342,000	428,407,000	388,407,000	+ 17,065,000	-40,000,000	
National Gallery of Art						
Salaries and expenses.....	54,281,000	53,899,000	55,837,000	+ 1,556,000	+ 1,938,000	
Repair, restoration and renovation of buildings.....	5,942,000	5,942,000	6,442,000	+ 500,000	+ 500,000	
Total, National Gallery of Art	60,223,000	59,841,000	62,279,000	+ 2,056,000	+ 2,438,000	
John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts						
Operations and maintenance.....	12,475,000	11,375,000	11,375,000	-1,100,000	.....	.....
Construction.....	12,400,000	9,000,000	9,000,000	-3,400,000	.....	.....
Total, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts	24,875,000	20,375,000	20,375,000	-4,500,000	.....	.....
Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars						
Salaries and expenses.....	5,840,000	5,840,000	1,000,000	-4,840,000	-4,840,000	
National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities						
National Endowment for the Arts						
Grants and administration.....	82,734,000	119,240,000	10,000,000	-72,734,000	-109,240,000	
Matching grants.....	16,760,000	16,760,000	.....	-16,760,000	-16,760,000	
Total, National Endowment for the Arts.....	99,494,000	136,000,000	10,000,000	-89,494,000	-126,000,000	

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1997 AND
BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 1998—Continued**

Agency and item (1)	Appropriated, 1997 (enacted to date) (2)	Budget esti- mates, 1998 (3)	Recommended in bill (4)	Bill compared with appro- priated, 1997 (5)	Bill compared with budget estimates, 1998 (6)
National Endowment for the Humanities					
Grants and administration	96,100,000	118,250,000	96,100,000	.....	-22,150,000
Matching grants.....	13,900,000	17,750,000	13,900,000	.....	-3,850,000
Total, National Endowment for the Humanities	110,000,000	136,000,000	110,000,000	.....	-26,000,000
Institute of Museum and Library Services/ Office of Museum Services					
Grants and administration	22,000,000	26,000,000	23,390,000	+ 1,390,000	-2,610,000
Total, National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities.....	231,494,000	298,000,000	143,390,000	-88,104,000	-154,610,000
Commission of Fine Arts					
Salaries and expenses	867,000	867,000	907,000	+ 40,000	+ 40,000
National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs					
Grants.....	6,000,000	6,000,000	6,000,000	.....	.....
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation					
Salaries and expenses	2,500,000	2,745,000	2,700,000	+ 200,000	-45,000
National Capital Planning Commission					
Salaries and expenses	5,390,000	5,740,000	5,700,000	+ 310,000	-40,000

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR 1997 AND
BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL FOR 1998—Continued**

(1) Agency and item	(2) Appropriated, 1997 (enacted to date)	(3) Budget esti- mates, 1998	(4) Recommended in bill	(5) Bill compared with appro- priated, 1997	(6) Bill compared with budget estimates, 1998
Bureau of Indian Affairs.....	1,618,274,000	1,731,779,000	1,683,918,000	+ 65,644,000	-47,861,000
Departmental Offices.....	240,020,000	246,225,000	239,953,000	-67,000	-6,272,000
Total, Title I - Department of the Interior	6,335,599,000	6,566,851,000	6,518,192,000	+ 182,593,000	-48,659,000
TITLE II - RELATED AGENCIES					
Forest Service.....	2,919,564,000	2,368,595,000	2,648,165,000	-271,399,000	+ 279,570,000
Department of Energy.....	992,097,000	1,158,133,000	1,031,944,000	+ 39,847,000	-126,189,000
Indian Health Service.....	2,054,000,000	2,122,000,000	2,086,318,000	+ 32,318,000	-35,682,000
Indian Education.....	61,000,000	.....	.....	-61,000,000	.....
Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation	19,345,000	19,345,000	18,345,000	-1,000,000	-1,000,000
Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development.....	5,500,000	5,500,000	3,000,000	-2,500,000	-2,500,000
Smithsonian Institution.....	371,342,000	428,407,000	388,407,000	+ 17,065,000	-40,000,000
National Gallery of Art.....	60,223,000	59,841,000	62,279,000	+ 2,056,000	+ 2,438,000
John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.....	24,875,000	20,375,000	20,375,000	-4,500,000	.....
Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars	5,840,000	5,840,000	1,000,000	-4,840,000	-4,840,000
National Endowment for the Arts	99,494,000	136,000,000	10,000,000	-89,494,000	-126,000,000
National Endowment for the Humanities.....	110,000,000	136,000,000	110,000,000	.....	-26,000,000
Institute of Museum Services.....	22,000,000	26,000,000	23,390,000	+ 1,390,000	-2,610,000
Commission of Fine Arts.....	867,000	867,000	907,000	+ 40,000	+ 40,000
National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs	6,000,000	6,000,000	6,000,000	.....	.....
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	2,500,000	2,745,000	2,700,000	+ 200,000	-45,000

National Capital Planning Commission	5,390,000	5,740,000	5,700,000	+ 310,000	-40,000
Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission.....	500,000	.....	.....	-500,000	.....
Holocaust Memorial Council.....	31,707,000	31,707,000	31,707,000	.....	.....
Total, Title II - Related Agencies.....	6,792,244,000	6,533,095,000	6,450,237,000	-342,007,000	-82,858,000
TITLE III - EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS					
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 105-18)	386,592,000	.....	.....	-386,592,000	.....
Grand total.....	13,514,435,000	13,099,946,000	12,968,429,000	-546,006,000	-131,517,000

DISSENTING VIEWS OF HON. DAVID R. OBEY

Despite the best efforts of moderate Republicans on this Committee, the extremist elements in the Republican Conference and within the Republican leadership have succeeded in placing a poison pill in yet another Appropriations Bill.

Two years ago we faced a series of repeated government shut downs because House Republicans and their leaders chose to use Appropriations bills as the battle ground to fight for extremist policies which were in the end not even supported by members of their own party. Last year, a number of major domestic Appropriations bills passed in the House, could not even be brought to the Senate Floor because the funding provided was an embarrassment to Senate Republicans facing reelection. Only a few months or so ago, extraneous provisions tacked on to an emergency disaster relief appropriation bill at the insistence of House and Senate Republican leaders caused flood victims in the upper Midwest, California and other States to go for months without needed aid because of the partisan misuse of the appropriations process.

Now we have the first major Appropriation Bill for fiscal 1998 being reported from committee and we are again facing an impasse as the result of leadership imposed policies which are completely out of sync with the views of a broad spectrum of the American people.

The good which the National Endowment has done is indisputable. It has taken music, theater, dance, sculpture and painting from the society pages of large city newspapers and made it accessible to ordinary Americans in towns and villages across this country. It has given all Americans a greater sense of what is beautiful in the human spirit and what we can do with our imagination if we dare to try. It has helped all Americans develop a better connection with their own cultural heritage and that of their fore fathers.

Since the Endowment was created three decades ago we have seen a dramatic increase in artistic performances and activities. We have seen a dramatic increase in private contributions to the arts. When the NEA was established, there were only 56 nonprofit theaters in the United States. Today there are more than 400. The number of orchestras has quadrupled to more than 200. The same is true for opera companies. Dance companies have grown by more than eight fold. Public arts agencies in small towns and cities have grown to more 3,000.

The record of the Endowment, like that of most enterprises is not unblemished. Opponents of NEA funding now base their opposition almost entirely on objections to several dozen grant applications which the endowment chose in years past to fund. What opponents of the Endowment fail to acknowledge is that objections have been raised to only about 40 of the 112,000 grants which NEA has awarded during its 30 years of existence. That doesn't even round

to one tenth of one percent. Further, there is clear evidence that the leadership of the Endowment has gotten the message and that far greater vigilance is now being exercised to avoid these mistakes now than in the past.

This committee deals frequently with needed programs that have failed in one respect or another to meet our and the public's expectations. If these programs can be reformed to meet the interests of the country and of our individual constituents we don't normally throw the baby out with the bath water. We should not do so with respect to support of the arts. Even if we restore funding for the NEA in this bill to \$99 million, the amount available for the current year, we will be supporting the arts at levels 40% below the support we provided a few years ago. We should do not less than that and the proposed termination of the NEA contained in the reported bill is the kind of extremist policy which has gotten this committee and this Congress in so much trouble over the last several years.

DAVE OBEY.

DISSENTING VIEWS REGARDING THE WOODROW WILSON INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR SCHOLARS

We wish to register our dissent with respect to the recommended funding level for the Woodrow International Center for Scholars and portions of the language concerning the Center contained in the Committee's report.

We appreciate Chairman Regula's willingness to listen to our concerns and to make significant changes in the language of the Subcommittee report. However, in our view, the report still gives an inadequate account of the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) review of Wilson Center operations, and the Committee has come to conclusions regarding Center funding which that review does not even remotely warrant.

First, the report languages alleges that the work of the scholars at the Wilson Center no longer has relevance to current public policy or real world issues. As a result, the report claims the Center has lost its public policy function and its original goal of linking the worlds of learning and public policy.

In fact, the NAPA review does not provide any quantitative analysis or substantive review of the scholarly outputs of the Center—either recent or at any point in its history—which can substantiate such a claim. We therefore invite the House to review the list of projects undertaken by the 67 Scholars in Residence during 1996–97, some of which are listed below. Research initiatives such as the following can hardly be described as irrelevant or cited as proof that the Center has lost its public policy function:

“The Jordanian-Palestinian Dynamic in Jordan and the Arab-Israeli Peace Process”

“Developing the Rule of Law in Emerging Democracies: The Role of U.S. Foreign Policy and Foreign Assistance”

“Militarism and National Development in Korea 1931–92”

“The Evolution of the Revolution: post-Khomeini Iran”

“Ideology, Pragmatism, and Party Formation in post-Soviet Russia”

“Competitive Advantage: Political Competition and Economic Reform in post-Communist Transitions”

“Muslim/Christian relations in Twentieth Century Egypt”

The NAPA review further offers no quantitative analysis of the seminars, workshops, and other programs the Center has offered and the degree to which these programs are effectively linking the scholarly initiatives with its public policy programs. Again, we invite the House to review the list of policymakers who have participated in Center programs in 1997. In our view, participation by such prominent public policymakers as the following indicates that the Center is attempting to link the worlds of public policy and learning:

Secretary of State Warren Christopher

General Barry McCaffrey, Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy
 Alan Greenspan, Federal Reserve Chairman
 Robert Orr, Director of Global and Multilateral Affairs, National Security Council
 Alvaro de Soto, Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs, the United Nations
 U.S. Reps. Ben Gilman, Nancy Pelosi, and Chip Pickering
 U.S. Senator Joe Biden

Secondly, the Committee report's allegations with respect to the Center's leadership are similarly based on the incomplete assessment contained in the NAPA review. Although the report states that "the only accomplishment the Academy could cite for the current director was obtaining new office space," the reviewers did not conduct a substantive analysis of the director, but focused on staff comments with respect to the senior leadership of the Center. In fact, the NAPA review stated, ". . . members of the board and the council generally rate the leadership's performance highly. They applaud the director's relocation efforts and ability to attract highly visible fellows and guest scholars to the center . . ." While there is undoubtedly room for improvement in leadership—especially a more active role for the Board of Directors—the only personnel recommendation in the review is for periodic assessments of the director by the Board.

Thirdly, the report states that it may be "impossible for the Wilson Center to reestablish a clear mission within the current organization." By contrast, the NAPA review suggests that it is highly possible for the Center to re-invent itself, stating that the Center "merits continued support because it is in a position to play an important role in both the academic and public policy communities."

In conclusion, despite its shortcomings, the NAPA review is helpful in two ways. One, it notes key assets the Center has accumulated over the past 30 years, including consistent attraction of outstanding scholars and practitioners who have produced high quality publications; nonpartisan, nonideological analysis; and facilitation of discussion between scholars and public policy specialists. Two, it makes a number of recommendations to improve the work and effectiveness of the Center, particularly with regard to personnel evaluations for the director, board involvement in clarifying the mission of the Center, and the need to improve the Center's efforts to link the worlds of learning and public affairs by balancing its scholarly focus with strengthened public service programs and initiatives.

Unfortunately, the Committee has largely ignored these components of the report. Instead of recognizing the Center's attributes and implementing the recommendations contained in the report, the Committee has called for effectively de-funding the agency. The Committee therefore has rendered irrelevant the very review it required the Center to undertake—at taxpayer expense—last year.

In this time of fiscal constraint, there is no federal agency or recipient of federal funding that should not be subject to careful scrutiny. In submitting these dissenting views, we in no way mean to imply that there is not room for improvement at the Center, or that the Subcommittee should not exercise its oversight authority. How-

ever, in the absence of careful review or any Committee hearings on the Wilson Center during the FY98 cycle, we must respectfully object to the Committee's conclusions and funding recommendation.

DAVID PRICE.
 DAVE OBEY.
 SIDNEY R. YATES.
 NORM DICKS.
 DAVID E. SKAGGS.
 JIM MORAN.
 VIC FAZIO.
 STENY HOYER.
 TOM FOGLIETTA.
 NANCY PELOSI.
 ROSA L. DELAURO.
 JOHN W. OLVER.
 CARRIE P. MEEK.
 MARTIN O. SABO.

DISSENTING VIEWS BY HON. NORM DICKS

I wish to express my strong opposition to the Committee's actions to fund the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) at only \$10 million for Fiscal Year 1998, a level of funding targeted at shutting down the organization. I believe that eliminating federal support for the arts is a major mistake and a tragedy for our nation.

For those in the Congress concerned and conscious of deficit reduction, I wish to point out that the Interior Appropriation Subcommittee has already drastically reduced base funding for the Arts by 40 percent.

Those who believe the NEA funding should be reduced further or eliminated are saying to this nation and their constituents that we should not invest in our culture and in creativity. To be against the arts agency's existence is to say that we should not support ballets, symphonies, or theater performances. It's time to look at the real truth and the real value of the NEA, and move beyond the scapegoating for convenience of this important cultural institution for our nation.

Let's examine the real record, and stop viewing this agency through a prism of distortion. Since its creation in 1965, the NEA has awarded over 100,000 grants and less than 40 have been considered to be very controversial. It is estimated that the Endowment costs each American just 38 cents a year. However, with this modest investment, the agency helps enhance the quality of life for our citizens, by supporting theaters, touring dance companies, folk festivals, arts education, orchestras, museums, and a wide variety of other programs.

Many widely acclaimed programs began with the talent of individuals who had received seed money from the NEA, and many rural areas of our nation would not be able to enjoy arts programs without outreach by the Endowment.

We must recognize that the small investment made by the federal government in funding the NEA creates tremendous leverage in obtaining private investment. For every dollar spent by the Endowment, it attracts \$11 in investment from the private sector. In fact, many private sector contributors rely heavily on the NEA's grant selection process as a guide to the kinds of programs that should be supported.

Endowment support has helped to increase audience support for all art forms. For example, the annual audience for professional dance has grown from one million to more than 16 million over the past 28 years. Audiences for the work of professional opera companies have grown to over 7.6 million, compared to only 5 million a decade ago. Non-profit theaters serve an audience that has grown to over 20 million. Symphony performance attendance has risen to over 27 million annually. All of this has occurred with seed support from the NEA.

The NEA's Underserved Communities Initiative, created in 1990, has awarded grants in every state to broaden public access to art in rural, inner-city, and artistically underserved areas.

Also, support for the arts is support for the economy. The NEA's modest budget has annually generated matching funds estimated at over \$1.2 billion. These monies permeate the economy. At least 1.3 million full time jobs are supported by the arts; \$25.2 billion is earned through salaries, wages, and entrepreneurial income; local governments receive \$790 million in taxes and fees; state governments receive \$1.2 billion; and the Federal government receives \$3.4 billion in income tax revenue.

It is clear that the outreach and support granted by the NEA to the arts has an incredible ripple effect throughout our economy, and restricting or eliminating the NEA's ability to perform that outreach would be both economically and culturally devastating.

In my home state of Washington, many arts and cultural institutions have benefited from NEA grants, including: Tacoma's Broadway Theater, the Tacoma Art Museum, the Centrum Foundation, the Washington State Arts Commission, the Before Columbus Foundation, the Pacific Northwest Ballet, the Bainbridge Island Arts Council, the Seattle Art Museum, the Spokane Symphony Society, the Washington State Historical Society, and the Seattle Children's Theater Association.

Not just in my district, but throughout the nation, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is serving our nation well. It is important for our future, and it should receive the support of this Congress because that is what the American people expect of us, and we should not let them down.

NORM DICKS.

